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INA: 'ARAFAT REJECTS PROPOSAL FOR DIALOGUE

JN0716592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Beirut, 7 August--Tariq 'Aziz, member of the Ba'th Party National Command, has declared that Iraq had asked Kuwait to publish the details of the investigation into the killing of 'Ali Yasin [former director of the PLO office in Kuwait] for the benefit of public opinion. This was revealed in a statement by Mr 'Aziz to a number of Lebanese journalists. The statement was published here today in several Lebanese papers.

Mr 'Aziz explained that Yasir 'Arafat was informed that we had no personal, political or ideological quarrel with 'Ali Yasin. It is unreasonable to believe that the state organs would strike at a person with whom they have no quarrel. He said that the basis of the current differences between the Iraqi party and revolution and certain PLO and Fatah leaders is the stand on the Palestinian issue and the political solutions which have been raised, particularly those raised in the past 5 years following the October War.

Mr 'Aziz added that Iraq had proposed to the PLO leadership that a dialog be opened in a democratic atmosphere in order to define the bases for difference and agreement. In the beginning, Abu 'Ammar agreed with this principle. However, he soon backed away, and we suddenly began to hear PLO accusations that the Iraqi intelligence service had murdered 'Ali Yasin. The campaign of prevarications and lies against Iraq had begun.

Mr 'Aziz said that 'Arafat had agreed to begin the dialog with preliminary talks in Beirut, to be followed by the arrival of a Fatah delegation in Baghdad. 'Arafat then left for Moscow and Cuba, and we were taken by surprise by the attacks on our embassies in London and Paris and on our consultate in Karachi, and by the firing on the car of the Iraqi ambassador in Beirut.

Regarding the accusations leveled against Abu Nidal's group, Tariq 'Aziz said: We support the general political trend of these brother strugglers. However, we are not their trustees; neither are we responsible for their actions--whether there were such actions or not. Mr 'Aziz affirmed that the official Iraqi organs did not assist on actions such as the recent incident in Paris--even if it is true that Abu Nidal's group carried out the operation.

'Aziz stressed that Iraq is still ready to hold a dialog with the PLO leadership despite all that has happened, but not in an atmosphere of accusations and acts of aggression against our missions abroad. The dialog should be far removed from accusations, prevarications and abuses.

PLO SENDS MESSAGES REGARDING IRAQI 'CRIMES'

JN0718462 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The PLO, through its Political Department, today sent memorandums to Arab, Islamic, nonalined, socialist and other friendly countries concerning the crimes of the Iraqi regime against the PLO and its representatives abroad.

The memorandums appealed to Arab masses and leaders, all free peoples of the world, friendly and allied countries and powers to support the Palestinian people against this ugly war which the Iraqi regime is waging against the Palestinian people and revolution.

PFLP MEDIATION BETWEEN IRAQ, FATAH REPORTED

NC0610386Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 6 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 6 August--The Lebanese newspaper AL-WATAN today quotes Palestinian rejection front sources as saying that the front leaders, who have held a series of meetings during the last few days, have adopted several important resolutions for Palestinian national unity.

The paper, organ of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, notes the presence of PFLP mediation between Iraq and Fatah. The paper says that a delegation of the front visited the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut yesterday and met with Iraqi Ambassador Qasim as-Samawi.

The paper also says that Dr George Habash, secretary general of the PFLP, had previously met with a number of Fatah and PLO leaders at the PLO's Political Department in Beirut to discuss developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

'ARAFAT HONORS PAKISTANI KILLED IN ISLAMABAD

JN0717417Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution armed forces, yesterday gave instructions to name the Pakistani martyr [killed during the attack on the PLO's Islamabad office] a martyr of the Palestinian revolution.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN BONN INTERVIEWED ON SLAYINGS

DW0710307Y Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 7 Aug 78 p 90 DW

[Interview by unidentified reporter with Bonn PLO representative Frangi]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr Frangi, extremist Palestinians have assassinated the PLO representatives in London, Kuwait and Paris and have announced the liquidation of other followers of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. Will you, too, have to be afraid of being killed?

Frangi: Everyone of us is bearing the risk of losing his life. And as for my security, this is something that concerns the Federal Republic and the German police.

SPIEGEL: But do you feel sufficiently protected?

Frangi: No.

SPIEGEL: Have you asked for better protection?

Frangi: The PLO and the Federal Republic do not recognize each other diplomatically. Therefore we cannot insist on more protection by the police.

SPIEGEL: What type of Palestinians are those chasing after their own representatives abroad?

Frangi: Iraq has hired these people who allegedly want to liberate Palestine. In reality they have killed more of our friends yet than our enemies.

SPIEGEL: What is the object of Baghdad's terroristic struggle against the PLO?

Frangi: The Ba'th Party ruling in Iraq also defends its power by means of terror. There is no opposition there which would dare to criticize the government. And then this regime uses an extremist Palestinian group around former PLO man Abu Nidal, extending this terror to the Arab level.

SPIEGEL: Is Iraq unwilling to permit an independent representation by the PLO?

Frangi: Exactly. We have more than 110 PLO bureaus all over the world, only in Baghdad were we not allowed to have one. Instead of a PLO bureau, Iraq invited some Palestinians into the country and gave them weapons. The only thing Baghdad wants is to tutor us. Honestly speaking, if the Iraqis liberated Palestine for me, I would never return to my homeland.

SPIEGEL: The fact that Iraq arms Abu Nidal is no explanation for the attempts on the PLO. Is it not the Palestinian leadership that is at stake?

Frangi: Abu Nidal himself was sentenced to death four years ago by a revolutionary council within the Fatah. Since then he has been hiding in Iraq, organizing in training camps there sort of a brain-washing of young Palestinians who then are being told that 'Arafat is a traitor and that the PLO leaders want to reach a compromise with the State of Israel.

SPIEGEL: But how many Palestinians are thinking like Abu Nidal?

Frangi: There are differences of opinion also within the PLO, representing roughly 90 percent of the Palestinians. But even the remaining ten percent cannot be claimed by Abu Nidal for himself. Most of the PLO opponents disapprove of him, because he is nothing but an instrument of the Iraqis.

SPIEGEL: And in what way will the PLO respond to the declaration of war by Abu Nidal?

Frangi: There are madmen everywhere. But never must the Palestinians use the same methods. This must never happen. Without terror you serve your cause better.

SPIEGEL: But the PLO last Thursday accepted responsibility for a terrorist attack on the Tel Aviv green market?

Frangi: There is the legitimate right of an oppressed people of acting against its oppressors. The event you are talking about I do not consider a terrorist attack.

PLO OFFICIAL, IRAQI DIPLOMAT ON RECENT VIOLENCE

AU042004 [Editorial Report AU] Vienna Domestic Television Service in German at 1832 GMT on 4 August carries an interview with (Hikmat Sattar), charge d'affairs of the Iraqi Embassy in Vienna, and (Ghazi al-Husayn), PLO Representative in Vienna, on the latest round of intra-Arab violence. Al-Husayn says, among other things, that "the PLO will never permit the murder ot its representatives to go unpunished." Asked by the Austrian television interviewer whether this meant that the series of retaliation attacks will continue, that the terror is just about to begin--also in Europe--Al-Husayn says: "I do not think so; the situation will certainly calm down soon." Al-Husayn goes on to say that the PLO favors Arab solidarity and cooperation with all Arab parties, "and we hope, wish and will do everything to improve relations."

'ARAFAT CABLE TO PARIS PLO OFFICE REPORTED

LD071359Y Paris LE MONDE in French 6-7 Aug 78 p 18 LD

[Unattributed report: "Yasir 'Arafat Asks All PLO Representatives To Denounce Iraqi Secret Services' Role"]

[Excerpt] In a telegram sent to the PLO offices in Paris Friday 4 August, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denounces the role of the Iraqi secret services in the assassination of [PLO Paris office chief] 'Izz ad-Din al-Qalaq, Palestinian sources tell us. In this telegram Yasir 'Arafat "asks all PLO representatives to take the necessary steps to denounce to all governments and all peoples the role of the Iraqi secret services in the murder of 'Izz ad-Din al-Qalaq."

For his part, PLO representative to UNESCO [as published] (Ibrahim Sousse) declared Friday that "there will be no PLO reprisals in France or on the European scene." Questioned on Radio Europe 1 following the terrorist attack, Mr (Sousse) stated that this "conflict will be resolved within the Arab world." "We are keen to respect the sovereignty of European countries and to live strictly by the law because above all we want to be credible," he added.

According to Mr (Sousse), Abu Nidal and the Iraqi intelligence services are responsible for this terrorist attack. "Abu Nidal is a fanatic who does not believe in dialog among the various PLO factions. He is in the pay of the Iraqi intelligence services which have embarked on a fight to the death against the PLO." But, Mr (Sousse) added, "since they are not strong enough to attack the head men, they are decapitating the PLO abroad."

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARIS PLO SLAYING CLAIMED

TA041807Y Paris AFP in English 1730 GMT 4 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Paris, Aug 4 (AFP)--An organisation calling itself "Black September and June" today claimed responsibility for killing Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative 'Izz ad-Din al-Qalaq during an attack on his office here yesterday.

A communique phoned anonymously to AGENCE FRANCE PRESS said that Mr al-Qalaq's murder constituted a "reply to the chain of assassinations and murders perpetrated by the Palestinian right" and to the "reactionary Palestinian policy led by (PLO chief Yasir) 'Arafat.

The communique said that operation had been "also a simple warning for the future," and continued," if the Palestinian right-wing tendency began the assassinations, we believe that replying by vengeance is a logical way to disengage the internal conspiracy."

The communique regretted "the needless death of innocent victims" and blamed them on the Palestinian right-wing.

SAUDI ARABIA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HOLDS SESSION IN AT-TA'IF

LD080149Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2310 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--The Council of Ministers held an important session at 2230 today under His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting ended at midnight.

Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani stated at the end of the session that Prince Fahd spoke about the results of his visit to Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Iraq and his meeting with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Jordanian King Husayn ibn Talal, Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council.

His highness said: I came out from this tour with tangible facts, most important of which is President as-Sadat's adherence to not signing a separate peace with Israel and not forfeiting the Arabs' rights to restoration of their occupied territories and the Palestinians right to self-determination. His royal highness added: I also felt that the other leaders wanted to cross over the present stage into a situation where the Arab world would be united [words indistinct].

His royal highness said: During my meetings with Arab officials in Arab countries, I became certain of their belief that we must make use of the present stage and of the world's understanding of our just cause, and of their belief in the importance of solidarity and (?unity) for the restoration of Arab rights, for the return of the Palestinians to their country and assuring their right to self-determination.

Speaking about the outcome of his visit to some European countries and the economic and political talks that took place within the framework of relations between the kingdom and those countries, his royal highness expressed satisfaction with the understanding shown by the leaders of these countries for the Palestinian issue and expressed satisfaction that these leaders were convinced of the necessity of establishing a Palestinian state within the framework of restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

UAE

ABU DHABI DAILIES COMMENT ON VANCE MIDEAST TOUR

JN0711462 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 August--Two dailies today comment on the Middle East tour of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

AL-WAHDAH says: Apparently Vance's tour is aimed at calming down feelings rather than presenting new solutions and concepts for a settlement. The paper says that direct contacts between Egypt and Israel have failed to achieve any change in Israel's expansionist objectives. It notes that the U.S. secretary of state will try to convince Egypt not to lose hope with regard to direct contact with Israel so the opportunity to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East will not dissipate.

AL-ITTIHAD wonders whether the Vance tour is motivated by the consideration that [As-Sadat's] refusal to bargain over the land is due to stubbornness and intransigence. The paper also asks about the formula which will be presented by Vance, whether this formula will qualify him to bridge the gap of differences, and whether it will be a solution acceptable to Cairo and Tel Aviv.

The paper believes that the Egyptian initiative has reached its end. It thinks the Vance visit is part of a plan to establisish a final scene in the dialog whereby Israel will be able to hold Egypt responsible for the nonresumption of negotiations.

YEMEN--PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD SAYS NO SOVIET BASES IN YEMEN

AU051534Y Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 3 Aug 78 p 6 AU

[CTK Beirut dispatch: "The Reaction's Plans in the Red Sea Area; False Rumors About Military Bases in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen"]

[Text] Beirut, CTK--The Soviet Union is granting economic assistance to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] and is strengthening its defense ability. This was stated by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, chairman of the Presidential Council of the PDRY and government chairman, in an interview he gave to the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR. In connection with this he decisively rejected the fabrications alleging that the PDRY is in turn granting certain naval advantages to the Soviet Union.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani stated that part of the hostile campaign against the PDRY are the rumors spread about the existence of Soviet naval bases on the islands of Perim and Socotra. To prove these rumors false, we could invite everyone to visit these islands. The chairman of the Presidential Council also rejected the claim that any Soviet, Cuban or Ethiopian bases are deployed on the territory of Democratic Yemen.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani pointed out that, since last year, Saudi Arabia has been concentrating its troops on the southern borders of Yemen and that it has set up camps of foreign mercenaries on its own territory and on the territory of the Yemen Arab Republic, in the immediate vicinity of the PDRY.

With regard to Arab solidarity, he stated that Democratic Yemen is striving for a solidarity serving the battle against the common enemies of the Arab peoples and contributing toward solving the national problems, including the problem of the Arab people of Palestine. We certainly refuse to understand solidarity as it is understood by Egyptian President as-Sadat, who is implementing a policy disruptive of Arab solidarity and the unity of Arab peoples--a solidarity completely divergent from the decisions passed by the Rabat and Algiers summit conferences--with the silent agreement of reactionary Arab states.

On the Red Sea problem 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani stated that the reactionary Arab forces and imperialists are in reality striving to turn the Red Sea into a "lake of tension," under the cover of negotiations on changing the Red Sea into a "lake of peace and security."

That is why Democratic Yemen resolutely rejects all proposals supported by reaction and by imperialism, including the proposal to conclude an "agreement on security in the Red Sea." We are in favor of every state undertaking the task of protecting the Red Sea within the framework of its territorial borders. We declare once again that we are fighting for the freedom of navigation in all bays and channels, including the Bab Al-Mandab Straits, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani said.

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ARRIVES

NC071219Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1202 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrived in Alexandria this afternoon from Israel for talks on the Middle East crisis aimed at giving an impetus to the peace process in the area. He was met on arrival at Janaklis airport at 1255 by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil. Foreign Minister Kamil and the U.S. secretary of state then flew by helicopter to An-Nuzhah airport, where the U.S. secretary of state made a brief statement and answered questions by reporters.

Mr Vance and the delegation accompanying him then went by car to the Palestine Hotel, where Vance will be staying during his visit to Alexandria. The Egyptian foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state are scheduled to hold a meeting at 1600 today. President as-Sadat will receive Vance at 2000 today.

Makes Statement

NC071239Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance stated upon his arrival at An-Nuzhah airport that he looks forward to the talks which he will hold today with President Anwar as-Sadat. Vance said: I am pleased to be here so that with patience and persistence we can try to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Vance made a statement on arrival at An-Nuzhah airport, in which he said: I am pleased to be back in Egypt once again. I am looking forward to my meeting this evening with President as-Sadat. We are exerting efforts continuously, with patience and endurance, in order to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. We will devote all our efforts to reaching this objective.

Asked whether he carries proposals for breaking the present deadlock in the situation, Vance said: I have no comment now on this subject.

Kamil, Vance Meet

NC071524Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--The discussions between Egypt and the United States on the current efforts to give impetus to the peace process through direct contacts between Egypt and Israel began at the Palestine Hotel in Alexandria at 1600 today.

The Egyptian side was led by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and the U.S. side by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egypt's Ambassador to Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal and Director of the Foreign Minister's Office Ambassador Ahmad Mahir. The U.S. side was represented by the U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, Alfred Atherton; National Security Council member William Quandt and Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders.

The discussions between Egypt and the United States are taking place in an atmosphere of anxiety among the observers, who believe that the visit of Vance and his discussions with President Anwar as-Sadat will be decisive.

The observers are focusing their attention on the following three points: Does Vance have any proposals on the resumption of the negotiations between Egypt and Israel? Does Vance bring with him new elements from the Israeli Government? Is there any possibility of holding a meeting among U.S. President Carter, President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin?

A responsible source with the U.S. delegation told MENA before the meeting that Vance will visit the area again. Before the meeting an Egyptian official precluded another visit by Vance to the area shortly.

Further Report

NC0717l7Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--Following his first round of discussions with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said that the discussions were good and fruitful and that they were frank.

The Egyptian foreign minister added: Both Egypt and the United States have declared their commitment to achieve peace. The discussions centered primarily on the attainment of this goal. Kamil said: We made a comprehensive review of the situation in preparation for the meeting which President Anwar as-Sadat will hold with Vance this evening.

The meeting between Kamil and Vance lasted 1 hour and 45 minutes, 15 minutes more than originally scheduled. The meeting was held at the Palestine Hotel on the Al-Muntazah beach in Alexandria. A responsible Egyptian source has stated that during the meeting a general review was made of Vance's visit to Israel and of the situation in general. The source added that no specific points were discussed and that Egypt explained its position after listening to Vance. The purpose of this meeting was to prepare for the scheduled meeting of As-Sadat and Vance.

Answering reporters' questions, Hodding Carter, the official spokesman of the U.S. State Department, said that the meeting concentrated on discussing ways to progress toward peace. Asked about the possibility of another visit by Vance shortly, an Egyptian source said: This is not likely. It is possible that the U.S. secretary of state will leave Alexandria tomorrow.

As-Sadat, Vance Meet

NC0719S3Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--The first session of talks between President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was held at Al-Ma'murah rest house at 2100.

The session was attended by the Egyptian and U.S. delegations. Secretary of State Vance and his delegation arrived at the president's rest house at 2055. Vance was received by President as-Sadat, who embraced and welcomed him. President as-Sadat shook hands with the members of the U.S. delegation. The two delegations then began their talks in the garden of the rest house.

The talks were attended on the Egyptian side by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs Hasan at-Tuhami, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The talks were attended on the U.S. side by U.S. roving ambassador to the Middle East Alfred Atherton, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South African Affairs Harold Saunders and U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts.

A short while later President as-Sadat accompanied Cyrus Vance to another part of the garden, where the two met without others present. The meeting between President as-Sadat and Mr Vance lasted about 2 hours. The discussions between President as-Sadat and Cyrus Vance will be resumed at 2030 tomorrow, at the president's rest house in Al-Ma'murah.

Spokesman Reports

NC072231Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 7 August--The official spokesman of the president's office, Sa'd Zaghlul, has said that President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance discussed the situation and Mr Vance's visit to Israel.

The official spokesman said that Mr Vance handed a written message to President as-Sadat from President Jimmy Carter. The official spokesman declined to say whether the message contained an invitation from President Carter to President as-Sadat to visit Washington. The spokesman said that a press conference might be held at the end of the discussions, which are expected to be resumed tomorrow. The spokesman was asked about the atmosphere that prevailed during the discussions. He said: This is all I have.

AL-AHRAM Cites U.S. Position

NC072309Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 August--AL-AHRAM says in tomorrow's edition that during the working session this evening with the Egyptian side headed by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, the U.S. side headed by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance defined the U.S. position in the following six points:

1. The United States will continue to play the role of mediator until peace is attained.

2. The United States will not exert pressure on any of the sides but wants to present the obstacles which confront the resumption of the talks and to make it clear that the Egyptians and Israelis will not achieve anything if the talks are not resumed.

3. It is necessary for the two sides to go farther than their positions at Leeds Castle.

4. The U.S. side raised the subject of Israel's acceptance of Resolution 242 and the specific commitments spelled out in the resolution.

5. Cyrus Vance discussed with the Israeli side a proposal on convening a meeting in Al-'Arish and noted that Begin's announcement and rejection of the proposal was not justified.

6. According to U.S. sources, the Israeli side has made it clear that it is ready to be more flexible except on two points: return to the 1967 borders and a Palestinian state. According to Israel, anything other than these points is negotiable.

The U.S. side made it clear that through discussions the United States could present ideas which might help the two sides in bringing their points of view closer, and that without discussions the United States would find it difficult to present any ideas because it does not intend to present a complete plan for solving the Middle East question.

AL-AHRAM Comments on Talks

NC080735Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0625 GMT 8 Aug 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM, in today's editorial entitled "Vance and the Decisive Hours," affirms that the coming hours will be decisive as far as the efforts to settle the Middle East crisis are concerned. It says that the entire situation depends on what proposals the U.S. secretary carries as he comes from Tel Aviv. It also depends on what ideas the U.S. administration will put forward to break the deadlock reached in the talks between Egypt and Israel as a result of Israel's adamant refusal to withdraw from Arab territories.

AL-AHRAM adds: The recent Leeds Castle talks have proven that it is Israel which is freezing the peace talks by its current intransigence. Israel is trying to swallow up the West Bank and the Gaza sector by building settlements there illegally. It is also trying to drag Egypt into a series of endless and aimless discussions to procrastinate and waste time.

The paper emphasizes that the U.S. secretary of state is well aware of the Egyptian position. Egypt, it adds, will not return to the diplomacy of small steps, and Egypt refuses to negotiate in a vacuum; unless there is a fundamental change in the attitude of Begin's government, negotiations will be pointless, AL-AHRAM says.

The United States, the paper says, is now urged to take a decisive stand in light of the declared U.S. positions on the Middle East crisis, particularly on the implementation of Resolution 242, which calls for complete withdrawal from all fronts and is against the building of settlements in the occupied territories, as well as President Carter's specific position outlined in the Aswan declaration.

AL-AHRAM adds: Unless such a stand is taken at these decisive moments, peace in the area will be gravely endangered. The world will then know who threatens peace and seeks nothing but domination and expansion.

CAIRO RADIO URGES U.S. TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

NC072021Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[By Ibrahim Wahbi]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is now in Egypt after visiting Israel as part of his tour of the Middle East. He is trying to find a way to break the deadlock in the peace discussions. These talks were deadlocked after Israel rejected all of Egypt's proposals to restore the rights and territory which were usurped in 1967. The return of the rights and the land are the basis of any solution which Egypt will accept.

Egypt has declared more than once that it will not relinquish any part of the Arab territories or any of the legitimate Palestinian rights. Egypt insists on Israel's withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967 in implementation of the principle: what has been occupied should be deoccupied.

This principle was highlighted at the United Nations during the discussion of the Middle East problem. It is a principle which is consistent with all international laws and the UN Charter but is inconsistent with what Israel sees as its own interests.

Diplomatic observers assessing Cyrus Vance's current round believe that unless there are new bases for holding the discussions, Vance will be searching for a nonexistent black hat in a dark room. In other words, the one who is right cannot be expected to give up his rights, and Menahem Begin cannot be expected to change his desire to continue the occupation if the United States does not make a more positive effort to convince Israel that its position is not in the interests of international security and peace or in the interest of the United States or Israel itself. A positive contribution could be in the form of U.S. proposals on the basis of what the U.S. officials have said on more than one occasion. Their statements clearly indicate that they interpret UN Resolution 242 of 1967 as meaning Israel's withdrawal from all territories occupied on all fronts in 1967 and as meaning that it is impermissible to acquire land by force.

There are many U.S. statements, some of which confirm that the Palestinians have the right to establish a state, although this entity could be linked with the Jordanian State. In their statements, the U.S. officials have admitted that they do not approve of the continuation of the settlements and have even admitted the illegality of these settlements.

Consequently, if the United States were to draft these proposals which were included in statements made by U.S. officials at various times, and if it were to insist on them, not for the sake of Israel or the Arabs but for the sake of international peace and security, then the United States might succeed in giving momentum to the peace process. These proposals would help Israel become convinced that the United States does not approve of usurpation or of the desire not to restore usurped rights. If Israel were to become convinced of this, Vance might find a way which would lead him to the starting point toward a peaceful settlement.

If Israel maintains its position of usurping rights, then the efforts of the United States will turn into a vicious circle, and it will continue to be satisfied with the naive allegations that it is Egypt which does not wish to make concessions. By concessions, Israel means the relinquishment of Arab lands or Arab rights or the conclusion of compromise solutions that would allow Israel to get half or three-quarters of the occupied Arab territory. It would then expect to be thanked for this, because it believes that this would be a concession on its part.

All these ancient Israeli ideas are impeding progress toward peace. All the world must cooperate to put an end to this shortsighted policy.

CAIRO RADIO BLAMES BEGIN FOR FALTERING OF TALKS

NC071423Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[By Fawzi Surur]

[Excerpts] All observers who are following up the efforts to establish peace in the Middle East believe that the development of the present and future events vis-a-vis this basic issue has actually gone beyond the scope of pessimistic and optimistic statements and counterstatements.

What is clear to all now is that the obstacles which Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and his extremist clique are laying are no longer connected with statements and measures alone but go beyond, to the essence of the issue. Cairo and its political leadership has let no opportunity pass without disproving Begin's pretexts of adherence to measures and superficial appearances. It is Begin and the Tel Aviv leaders who are responsible for the main obstacle in the way of peace. They have rejected Cairo's objective proposals on complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory and on the establishment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, foremost of which is their inalienable right to establish a homeland on their national soil. Begin's position has crystallized to indicate that the issue is not one of measures and form. Begin's position is one of the rejection of the peaceful settlement.

It is no longer a secret that the many obstacles which Israel has laid since the Egyptian peace initiative are explosive mines which Begin and his extremist clique have planted along the road of efforts to establish a just and permanent peace in the area and settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. The policy of Tel Aviv has indeed lost its way to peace. If Tel Aviv has not done so deliberately, then it has committed a gross error which not only harms the Arab position, which is now very clear to all the world, but also harms the Israeli position, the racist, colonialist and imperialist nature of which has become clear.

The real aim of Israel under Begin is now evident to the world. It is the duty of the United States, which has the closest links with Israel, to play the role of a real partner, not a voluntary mediator, to establish peace, at which, it has been proved, Israel vehemently scoffs. It turns its back on any efforts to establish peace. It is the duty of the United States, the international organizations, and mainly the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly to defend their standing and dignity. In collective, bilateral or individual resolutions, they have declared that the Middle East crisis can only be solved and peace be established in the area if Israel withdraws and acknowledges the right of the Palestinian people to determine their fate and establish their state. Thus, Israel stands almost alone in defiance of all these forces openly threatening the world's security and safety. On the other side, Cairo cannot but emphasize its principled and objective position on the issue of just and durable peace and the efforts to establish it in the area: There will be no security and safety without the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory, and there will be no peace without the settlement of the Palestinian people's problem in a manner which would guarantee their alienable rights.

YAR OFFICIAL GIVES MUBARAK LETTER FOR AS-SADAT

JN071023Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Brother Ahmad Haydar, Foreign Ministry under secretary, handed Mr Mubarak a letter from brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, to his brother President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Brother Ahmad Haydar will leave this evening for Damascus to deliver a similar letter to President Hafiz al-Asad.

AMBASSADOR TO BONN INTERVIEWED ON TERRORISM

DW071135Y Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 7 Aug 78 p 91 DW

[Interview by unidentified reporter with Iraqi ambassador to the FRG Bayragdar]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Why are Iraqis or Palestinians supported by Iraq killing PLO representatives throughout the world?

Bayragdar: Do not forget that a number of attacks and cowardly assaults took place on half a dozen Iraqi representations. The group around Yasir 'Arafat within the PLO is pursuing a diversionary maneuver to counteract the growing distrust of him among the Palestinian population.

SPIEGEL: But who is carrying out these attempts?

Bayragdar: Continuous attempts on the Palestinians are being carried out by the Zionists, not the last of which was the barbarian bomb raid against a Palestinian refugee camp near Saida (Sidon) in Lebanon. Naturally there are different political orientations also among the Palestinians. The Palestinian people will have the final say.

SPIEGEL: The Bonn PLO representative maintains that Iraq has killed more PLO men than the enemy.

Bayragdar: Such a statement does not surprise me. It is regretted greatly, especially by the Palestinians themselves.

SPIEGEL: But your government has denounced the PLO and its leader 'Arafat as capitulationists who must be fought.

Bayragdar: Palestinian resistance eight years ago embodied the conscience, as it were, of the entire Arab nation. But the political orientation, or disorientation rather, of Mr 'Arafat has led to groups which are hunted after and even split up. The Iraqi Government can only ask the question of its responsibility.

SPIEGEL: You are backing Palestinian leader Abu Nidal. Why?

Bayragdar: The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Republic of Iraq are supporting with all means the just struggle of the Palestinian people, irrespective of persons or organizations.

SPIEGEL: How many Palestinians are supporting Abu Nidal?

Bayragdar: What matters here are not persons or the number of persons backing him. What matters merely is the programmed orientation which is being supported by the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian and Arab masses.

SPIEGEL: Will the Iraqis decide what is right for the Palestinians?

Bayragdar: Naturally not. But as it is, we are a component of the entire region, and an important one also. The Zionists have occupied Egyptian, Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese territory. We do not want Iraqi territory added.

SPIEGEL: The Bonn PLO representative has said that he would not return to a Palestine liberated by the Iraqis.

Bayragdar: I wonder whether he will return anywhere from his life in Bonn. I would rather remind you of the millions of Palestinians who do not enjoy that beautiful life in Bonn and who are waiting ardently to live freely in their homeland.

SPIEGEL: Why is Iraq taking the most extremist position of all Arab states?

Bayragdar: If I were a doctor, I would have to ask: Is an appendicitis operation something extreme as compared to taking a tablet for a headache? I think every circumstance requires the appropriate treatment. We know that in this view our Arab people agree with us.

KURDISTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONDEMNS PLO RIGHTWING

JN061716Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 6 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 August--The Democratic Party of Kurdistan has condemned the shameful crimes committed by the rightwing cliques within the PLO against Iraqi embassies abroad with the aim of harming Iraq's pan-Arab stand toward the Arabs' central issue of Palestine and toward the suspect designs and settlements being planned for the Arab area.

A statement issued by the party here today says that the deviant course followed by the rightwing leaders within the PLO is a prominent and tangible material proof that they are party to these suspect imperialist and Zionist designs in collaboration with the treasonous course and defeatism of the Egyptian and Syrian regimes at the expense of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and the liberation of the usurped Arab soil. This in itself is thus dangerous defeatism and a violation of the pan-Arab struggle line.

The statement adds: Our Kurdish people and our Democratic Party of Kurdistan hail the principled, courageous and honorable stand of supporting the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and of foiling the capitulatory and liquidationist designs.

The statement calls for toppling all those who represent treason and crime and says that total victory belongs to the people and to the will of steadfast strugglers who honestly and courageously reject the road of acquiescence and capitulation to the will of the usurping Zionist enemy supported by imperialism and the forces of reaction and agentry.

NEW IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE ARRIVES IN PARIS

JN041250Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1205 GMT 4 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Paris, 4 August--Nuri Isma'il al-Wayyis, the new Iraqi ambassador to France, arrived in Paris this afternoon. He was received at the airport by a representative from the French Foreign Ministry and the Iraqi charge d'affaires. Al-Wayyis is replacing Ambassador Mundhir Tawfiq al-Windawi, whose term of office in Paris ended.

NEW IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN ARRIVES IN LONDON

JN071544Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] London, 7 August--Hisham Ibrahim, the new Iraqi ambassador to Britain, arrived here this afternoon. He was received at the airport by a representative of the British Foreign Office, the Iraqi charge d'affaires and a number of the Iraqi Embassy staff. Mr Ibrahim succeeds Taha ad-Dawud, whose tour of duty has ended.

WEST BANK MAYOR ARRIVES IN AMMAN ON VISIT

JN070806Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Aug 78 p 15 JN

[Text] Amman--Karim Khalaf, mayor of Ramallah, arrived in Amman yesterday from the occupied territories to discuss matters in connection with the development of public projects in the city.

Interviewed by AR-RA'Y

JN080845Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Aug 78 pp 1, 12 JN

[Excerpts] [AR-RA'Y correspondent] Nizar al-Hindawi writes: Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf has stated that the masses in the occupied territories are exerting strenuous efforts and are using all means to thwart the self-rule plot the Zionist occupation authorities are trying to impose in various ways, including provocative acts against Palestinian personalities in the occupied homeland, particularly the mayors. Khalaf added: we are constantly working to thwart this plot aimed at obliterating the Palestinian identity.

In an exclusive interview with AR-RA'Y, Khalaf demanded that the Arab countries set aside their differences and achieve Arab unity in order to confront this racist colonialism which has no intention of withdrawing from any occupied territory. He added that the Zionist enemy's strength stems from dismemberment and division in the Arab world. He said: we are fully confident that the enemy has no intention of withdrawing. We are aware of this as a result of the reality we experience every day under the occupation. The enemy has managed to set up some 120 settlements and is now working to encircle the Arab areas with a belt of settlements.

Speaking about Arab support, Khalaf stressed the need to establish a pan-Arab fund to support the steadfastness of the Arab people in the occupied Arab territories in order to enable the citizens to keep their land. On the peace initiatives, Khalaf said: I was the first to confront the so-called [As-Sadat] peace initiative. We have been and still are against the initiative. This is not said for notoriety. We say it as a result of our direct contact with the mentality of the occupation authorities.

On health conditions in the West Bank, Khalaf said that the health conditions of detainees are serious and bad. He added that the detainees in the Ramallah prisons have been on strike for 2 months. He added that yesterday and the day before the families of the detainees and their relatives staged a sit-in in the Ramallah Municipality Building in front of the Military Governor's Building. In Jerusalem, the families of the detainees staged a sit-in in the Red Cross center, protesting terrorist methods and oppression against the detainees.

PRIME MINISTER BADRAN RETURNS FROM DAMASCUS 4 AUGUST

JN042001Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran and his delegation returned to Amman this evening at the end of the meetings of the eighth session of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee held in Damascus the day before yesterday under the prime minister's chairmanship.

In a statement on arrival at Amman airport, the prime minister said the higher committee met in Damascus on the instructions of the political command of His Majesty King Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad.

The prime minister added that the joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee held several meetings at which it reviewed the achievements that have been made in various fields, the foremost of which are agricultural integration and coordination, the drawing up of an integrated plan for agriculture and the guaranteed provision of foodstuffs.

The prime minister said the Jordanian higher committee visited Latakia and had the honor of meeting with President al-Asad. During the meeting there was a full review of the committee's work. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad stressed the need for this committee to work diligently in the two countries' interest, the prime minister added. He said the latest developments in the area were also reviewed. The prime minister was received by a number of ministers and high-ranking officials.

JORDANIAN-SYRIAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS END; STATEMENT ISSUED

JN041835Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The meetings of the eighth session of the joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee ended in Damascus yesterday. The meetings were held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi.

The minutes of the committee's meetings, which were issued today, stipulate: Proceeding from the ties of brotherhood binding the two fraternal Arab countries; having faith in the joint Arab destiny and in the unity of the aspirations and objectives of the one Arab people in Jordan and Syria; stressing the continuation of the march of good and fruitful cooperation, whose broad lines and pillars were formulated and established by the two great leaders, His Majesty King Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad, who defined its objectives and means both in their joint statement issued on 12 June 1975 and at their fraternal meetings in Damascus and Amman; and responding to the will of the Arab people in Jordan and Syria to achieve their aspirations for unity, liberation of the land and a better life, the joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee held its eighth session in Damascus from 2 to 4 August.

During these meetings the committee adopted several resolutions stressing the need to strengthen the march of cooperation, coordination and integration between the two fraternal countries. These resolutions include the following:

1. With regard to the joint companies, the committee welcomed the desire expressed by the competent quarters in Saudi Arabia to participate in the joint company for land transport. The committee decided to commission the ministers of transport of the two countries to hold the necessary contacts with these quarters for their final decision.

2. With regard to economic topics and trade, the committee urged the competent quarters in the two fraternal countries to lift all administrative and financial restrictions impeding trade between them, to apply the provisions of the economic cooperation agreement and to regulate the trade agreement signed in Amman on 6 April 1975.

3. With regard to development and planning, the higher committee approved the proposal by the technical committee to set up a joint Jordanian-Syrian company to study the feasibility of projects. The committee decided to commission the joint ministerial committee to take measures necessary to bring this company into existence.

4. With regard to economic coordination, the higher committee became acquainted with the three minutes concerning the meetings of the joint committee for economic coordination. It decided to invite the joint committee to continue to study and develop means of economic coordination.

5. With regard to agriculture, the committee decided to call upon the ministers of agriculture to meet in Damascus within 10 days from now, with the participation of the ministers of supply, in order to draw up a comprehensive plan for the two countries' cooperation in agriculture and the guaranteed provision of foodstuffs.

6. With regard to supplies, the committee stressed the need for market unity in the two countries and for the formation of a joint supply committee whose task will be to exchange know-how and information concerning supplies and internal trade.

7. With regard to transport, the committee became acquainted with the new status resulting from Saudi Arabia's participation in setting up the wide gage [of the Hijaz Railroad] linking the three countries. The committee welcomed the adopted executive steps and called upon the ministers of works and communications of the two countries to follow up coordination for implementation of the international highway between Damascus and Amman. The committee also called upon the competent ministers to draw up the unified traffic law in its final form and to refer it to the higher committee for approval at its next meeting.

The joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee also adopted several resolutions concerning various areas of cooperation and coordination between the two fraternal countries. The committee decided to commission the main preparatory committees to assess the previous stage of the good march by the fraternal countries and to prepare a report to include those resolutions already implemented and those not yet implemented, and consequently, to formulate a work plan in light of its assessment and study and to refer its recommendations to the next meeting of the higher committee.

At the end of the meetings of the higher committee, Prime Ministers Mudar Badran and Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi affirmed their determination to continue this work and to implement the instructions of the two great leaders, His Majesty King Husayn and his brother, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, in consolidating the march of integration for supporting the position of steadfastness, for liberating the Arab territories and for achieving the aspirations of the Arab people in the two fraternal countries. They agreed to hold the next meeting of the higher committee in Amman in November.

AD-DUSTUR CRITICIZES U.S. RESOLUTION TO CUT AID TO SYRIA

JN061108Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0615 GMT 6 Aug 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AD-DUSTUR comments on the U.S. House of Representatives' resolution to stop aid to Syria. The paper says that Syria's role in Lebanon is pan-Arab and not negotiable. It says that there is no doubt that the resolution raises questions about the extent to which the House of Representatives realizes its responsibilities and about its ability of see facts objectively without Zionist influence.

The paper points out that this resolution was sternly criticized by several quarters in the United States. This critism was highlighted in the Washington POST and in the warning of Senator Warren Magnuson, chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee. In his statement, he called for not following the actions of the House of Representatives.

The U.S. administration seems to feel embarrassed by this resolution, in which the United States emerges as a country that blesses chaos in Lebanon and penalizes any party on the side of Lebanese legitimacy, order and stability by halting aid to it.

PRESIDENT SARKIS MEETS WITH BUTRUS, AL-JUMAYYIL

NC0711587 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting at 0930 at the Presidential Palace with the minister of foreign affairs and defense, Fu'ad Butrus. They made a general review of the situation in Lebanon. They also made a general assessment of information pertaining to the outcome of the current diplomatic contacts which are aimed at solving the problem of the army's entry into the south.

At 1100 President Sarkis met with Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil within the context of contacts which the president has decided to hold with the political leaderships in Lebanon in order to handle the urgent matters facing the country.

After the meeting ended at 1145, Shaykh al-Jumayyil said: The matter we are dealing with today cannot be remedied by force. He added: Our meeting today aimed at finding a solution, because we know what the trouble is and have only to discover the remedy. He concluded: Our calamities stem from our differences with one another: I mean us, the Lebanese, because no one else knows the Lebanese problem as we do. It is our differences that have led us to this situation. Only an agreement among us can save us from our predicament.

INA: SNIPER FIRE IN BEIRUT DISRUPTS DEPUTIES' MEETING

JN0711357 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 7 August--Sniper activities increased before noon today all along the axes where fire from various kinds of weapons was exchanged throughout the night.

The main target of the snipers was the temporary location of the Chamber of Deputies in the Mansur Palace near the museum. The chamber's foreign, defense, administration and justice committees had been summoned to a joint session in that building today to discuss the draft project for the army's organization.

The INA correspondent said that one corporal of the Chamber's guards was killed at the entrance to the building by the sniper fire, while deputies and ministers scurried away from the bullets and were obliged to enter the building from the back entrance to attend the joint session. Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus was unable to enter the building.

The correspondent added that one staff sergeant in the army and one member of the public security force and his wife were also killed by sniper fire in Jisr Bayrut.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES CONVENE; SPEAKER MAKES STATEMENT

NC0711444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] The parliamentary administrative, judicial and defense committees held a joint meeting under the chairmanship of the Chamber of Deputies speaker, Kamil al-As'ad, at 1130. The government was represented by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss. Chairman of the Administrative and Defense Committee Nazim al-Qadiri, Chairman of the National Defense Committee Fu'ad Lahhud and 20 deputies attended the meeting.

After the closed session, Speaker Kamil al-As'ad made a statement in which he said: The basic principles and rules of the new defense bill were reviewed at this meeting. The session was adjourned until Tuesday when the discussion will be continued.

Asked the reason for Minister Butrus' absence, Speaker al-As'ad replied: Minister Butrus intended to be present ever since the meeting's date was set. He contacted me last Saturday in order to verify the meeting's date and time. His absence was entirely unexpected. I think his absence today stems from the security situation. As is known, there is an agreement on the broad lines and the general principles of the defense bill in the cabinet. His excellency the prime minister explained the government's views during this session.

Speaker al-As'ad commented on the killing by sniper fire of Hani Talib, a corporal of the Chamber's guards, who was killed this morning on the stairs of the Chamber. He said: This is a criminal act and is not subject to discussion. The sniping near the entrance to the parliament is sniping at the Lebanese existence because the sniper's do not want this country to exist.

INTERIOR MINISTER MEETS WITH SECURITY FORCES OFFICIAL

NC0717l0Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] This morning Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman received the acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, Hisham ash-Sha'ar. Minister Salman reviewed the current security situation with Mr ash-Sha'ar. They also discussed possible arrangements during the next phase.

The interior minister then contacted the Arab Deterrent Forces' Command and made a quick review of the security situation. He also contacted the director general of public security, Faruq Abi al-Lam'.

Minister Salman then received Henri Far'awn, chairman of the board of directors of the Beirut Port Investment Company. They reviewed the situation at the port and the means for reopening it.

DETERRENT FORCES REPORT CLASHES RESUME 7 AUGUST

NC0710S4Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Arab Deterrent Forces Command has issued the following communique:

The shelling of all positions of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Mar Mikha'il, Gallerie Sim'an, Chevolet, Sinn al-Fil and Jisr Bayrut areas continued last night. Heavy field guns with emplacements outside Beirut, particularly in the Ad-Dubayyah area, were used. The Arab Deterrent Forces refrained from returning that fire and were satisfied with returning the fire against the gun emplacements in the suburbs of Beirut, particularly in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and some places in Al-Ashrafiyah. The Arab Deterrent Forces' casualties were one martyr and five wounded.

At 1100 today, the shelling was resumed against the Arab Deterrent Forces positions in Jisr Bayrut and Jisr al-Wati, cutting off the two roads leading to these areas. An Internal Security Forces corporal guarding the Chamber of Deputies building in Qasr Mansur was killed by sniper fire.

INA REPORTS FIGHTING SPREADS IN BEIRUT

JN071325Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1238 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 7 August--The area of the shelling, which began before noon today, has widened; fighting between the rightists and the Arab Deterrent Forces with heavy weapons extends to Beirut's southern suburbs, particularly along the Ash-Shiyyah-'Ayn ar-Rummanah axis.

Rightist forces fired scores of mortar shells from field guns at random in the direction of Beirut's western sector. Several shells fell along the Corniche Mazra'a, near the Barbir Hospital and on residential areas near the At-Tariq al-Jadidah. The sound of explosions was heard in all parts of Beirut.

VOICE OF LEBANON: SHELLS FALL ON WESTERN BEIRUT

NC071700Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Today's reports indicate that about 11 shells have fallen indiscriminately on the western area of Beirut. The reason for the shelling of the western area is still not clear, but it might be aimed at turning the conflict into a Moslem-Christian one to guarantee a special status for the Arab Deterrent Forces.

ARAB DETERRENT FORCES REPORT CALM IN BEIRUT

NC071847Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Replying to a question concerning the security situation as of 2000 [1700 GMT], a responsible source of the Arab Deterrent Forces' Command said that the situation has been generally calm in Beirut and its suburbs after snipers succeeded in cutting off the Beirut and Al-Wati bridges, and after the Chamber of Deputies in Mansur Palace was subjected to fatal sniper fire--which was announced earlier. This situation continued until 1300.

Last night, for the first time, tank guns were used to fire directly on the forces' centers. Long-range weapons were also used in an attempt to lure the forces into retaliating on the residential quarters. The deterrent forces, however, refrained from retaliating except at the sources of fire. They attacked only the sources of fire to spare the lives of innocent people. Thus, only the perpetrators suffered casualties.

No security incidents were recorded in the Al-Hadath area and the rest of Beirut's eastern and northern areas which, in spite of the apprehension and caution apparent in some communications media, were calm and were also the scenes of noticeable traffic.

ISRAELI PLANES OVERFLY BEIRUT 8 AUGUST

NC081220Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The security situation has remained calm since this morning except for the caution which continues to prevail in the areas which were the scenes of tension during the past few days.

This afternoon, the directorate of civil aviation at Beirut International Airport reported that two Israeli planes broke the sound barrier over the skies of Beirut at 1445. The planes were flying north along the entire Lebanese coast.

LEBANON MAY RESORT TO SECURITY COUNCIL ON SOUTH

NC080658Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Political sources say there is a disposition to refer the crisis in the south to the UN Security Council in view of the obstacles facing the entry of the Lebanese Army unit into the border area.

Lebanon's permanent UN delegate, Ghassan Tuwayni, will meet with the chairman of the Security Council today to complete the contacts which he began with the council members regarding the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426 dealing with the south.

ARMY ISSUES STATEMENT 7 AUGUST ON KAWKABA SHELLING

NC071340Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The 5th Branch of the Army Command has issued the following: On 7 August 1978, the Kawkaba area was subjected to very heavy 155-mm artillery shelling from 1115 until 1215. No casualties were sustained as a result of this shelling but some equipment was damaged.

UNIFIL Forces Hit

NC071657Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The UNIFL forces command in Kawkaba has affirmed that the Nepalese contingent was the target of more than 20 artillery shells before noon today, but that there were no casualties.

The foreign journalists, press photographers and correspondents who are covering the Lebanese military units' advance were forced to take refuge in safe places until the shelling subsided.

Israeli Artillery in Action

NC071921Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The 5th Branch of the Lebanese Army Command has issued the following statement this evening:

Since 1945, the army positions in Kawkaba have been subjected to Israeli artillery shelling from 155-mm and 175-mm howitzers. Six army personnel were wounded, two of them seriously. Some vehicles and equipment were severely damaged. The artillery shelling stopped at 2115.

DAMASCUS REPORTS U.S. PRESSURE, KHADDAM'S STATEMENT

JN041855Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Last night the U.S. Congress approved by a large majority a draft resolution to stop economic aid to Syria in an open attempt to put pressure on Syria because of its opposition to and rejection of the imperialist-Zionist capitulationist solutions. Reports say the U.S. Congress took this decision because Syria continues to shoulder its pan-Arab responsibility to confront the plot of capitulation and to oppose its numerous supporters in the Arab homeland, particularly in Lebanon where the Arab Deterrent Forces are confronting the divisive plots of the Phalangists and the Sham'unists who are conniving with the Zionist enemy.

Commenting on the U.S. Congressional decision, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: Our decisions always stem from our pan-Arab and national interests. We take our steps and decide our policies whether others like it or not. It is we who are the decision makers in our pan-Arab interests and not the United States of America.

ATH-THAWRAH ON U.S. SUSPENSION OF AID TO SYRIA

JN050716Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 Aug 78 JN

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH comments on the U.S. pressures on Syria. Under the headline "The Firm Pan-Arab Stands Are Not Affected by Pressures," the paper writes: The United States, which has the longer arm in working out diplomatic maneuvers and was the pioneer in the techniques of political shrewdness, must realize that Syria, the principal Arab base of steadfastness against the Zionist invaders, ambitious imperialists and hireling agents, has not and will not yield to any form of extortion, whether political or economic. This fact must be incorporated into U.S. policy and foreign strategy. Syria, as is well-known by the world, has always rejected all sorts of foreign intervention in its internal affairs or pan-Arab outlooks. Syria, regarding the national and pan-Arab tasks, is the decision-as well as the initiative-maker and will not be shaken from its determination by the collusion of the hirelings and the threats of the Zionists. Its march will not be stopped by the pressures of the United States or others.

Syria is capable of overcoming obstacles and provocations and possesses all the means for confronting the enemies of the Arab nation and disclosing the dimensions of the huge international plot, which gets fiercer whenever Syria holds fast to its firm and principled stand that aims at foiling the capitulationist line and liquidating the pickets of agentry and plotting. The U.S. political and economic pressures, which accompany Israel's threats against southern Lebanon and the moves of the agents and hirelings in the Arab region, will only further Syria's cohesion and firmness. As the regime of killers in Baghdad has failed to preoccupy Syria in side issues that sidetrack it from its pan-Arab commitments, so the Egyptian regime has failed to drag Syria into defeatist positions that undo the gains and aims of the October War.

Syria, together with the masses of the Arab nation, realizes the dimensions of the plot whose acts follow one another with the aim of harming the Arab struggle and liquidating the Palestinian cause.

This plot is being carried out by imperialism, Zionism and Israel, in coordination and cooperation with the capitulationist Egyptian regime and that exploitive fascist regime in Baghdad. Out of this realization, the U.S. pressures will end up with the same result because Syria knows its positions and on what solid grounds it stands. Syria, which believes in the inevitable triumph of the nation as well as the justice of this nation's legitimate struggle, will come out of the battles with uplifted head and supported by the masses of the Arab nation.

DAMASCUS RADIO: SYRIA WILL NOT YIELD TO PRESSURE

JN051939Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Aug 78 JN

[Political commentary]

[Text] When President Hafiz al-Asad announced Syria's determination to confront and foil the conspiracy aimed at imposing capitulation on the Arabs, he did not seek the advice of any of the big or small countries; he also did not ask for permission from any capital. The Syria of President al-Asad is not used to receiving its decisions from any sources other than its national will and its pan-Arab commitment.

Syria alone is the creator of its decisions and no other will can supercede Syria's own will, regardless of the efforts or sacrifices Syria has to make in return. It was Syria's will to fight the glorious October War and it was a Syrian initiative to save fraternal Lebanon from bloody sedition. Moreover, it was Syria which decided to confront the ill-fated Sinai agreement. Syria's future decisions will continue to be free and national and will stem from Syria's intrinsic will and patriotic and national interests. Syria's decisions will not yield to any pressure or any outside threats or intervention.

Those who have not benefitted from their past experiences with Syria will continue to make the same bad judgements. The United States has tried to intervene in an attempt to influence Syria's decision regarding the initiative to save Lebanon from its crisis--a crisis originally caused by the parties to the Sinai agreement. Syria's reply to this intervention was decisive when President Haifz al-Asad rejected all U.S. threats. Instead he clung to the Syrian initiative which emerged as a result of the free, responsible and national will of Syria.

When the U.S. Congress adopts a measure to put pressure on Syria, it is only committing another mistake. Syria is ready to sacrifice everything to retain its free will and its national decisions. If the United States thinks that it can put pressure on Syria by not keeping U.S. commitments to Syria, it is only hurting itself and the prestige of U.S. international commitments. The United States is also demonstrating the fact that U.S. ambitions in the area have been deeply influenced by Syria's decisive and principled role.

Syria, which is strong through its people and which has borne heavy responsibilities in the battle of liberation and enlightenment, will never be influenced by U.S. decisions. Therefore, this current decision will not put any pressure on Syria. At the very best, this decision will only explain the U.S. attitude toward Syria's strong role in both the Lebanese and Arab arenas. This decision will also be another example of the short-sightedness and the emotionalism of some of those who plan U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Syria feels proud of its role in Lebanon and of its efforts to foil the tripartite conspiracy to impose capitulation on the Arabs. Syria is determined to continue its principled and firm policy so that no flag but the Arab flag will fly over the Arab homeland, and so that no will but the free Arab will exists in this homeland.

Syria is very concerned about maintaining good and friendly relations with all countries, including the United States. However, Syria will never accept any pressure or threats even if they come from a superpower and a permanent member of the UN Security Council. This is because Syria welcomes relations based on mutual respect and equality, and rejects interference in domestic affairs. Syria can conduct discussions on any issue, but the pan-Arab issue will supercede all other discussions.

President Hafiz al-Asad has translated the free will of the Syrian Arab people into great historic decisions. No power in the whole universe can affect this will. Therefore, Syria's will is going to continue to be stronger than any economic or other pressure. Anyone who tries to put pressure on Syria will regret his acts because he will founder on the rocks. The people in Syria believe in the national leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad and these people are ready to sacrifice everything just to protect their independence and maintain their free national will. Syria, supported by the Arab steadfastness powers, has been successful in confronting the capitulation conspiracy and in isolating the treacherous regime of As-Sadat. Syria will continue in its battle until the land is liberated and rights restored in Lebanon, the Arab homeland and wherever there is a need for a battle. No threat or warning can alter Syria's will. This country trusts the future because President Hafiz al-Asad said: Our future calls for optimism.

TISHRIN: ARABS SHOULD WREST INITIATIVE FROM U.S.

JN070805Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Aug 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "Where the Arabs Should Derive Their Peace Force From," the newpaper TISHRIN deals with the unilateral U.S. role in the Middle East peace process. The paper also deals with As-Sadat's capitulationist stands. It then speaks about the Arabs' chances to use all possible means to liberate the occupied territories and to mobilize all Arab resources in the service of the confrontation front.

In conclusion, TISHRIN says that the Arab force necessary to reactivate the peace process does not only mean military and economic force, but also it is the ability to benefit from all the pro-Arab forces in the international arena and also from those countries whose ideas are close to the Arab demands. The aim is to free world public opinion from the illusions being widely propagated by imperialism and Zionism, with the help of As-Sadat's actions.

Arab force is also the force necessary to launch a diplomatic and information campaign throughout the entire world in order to isolate the Israeli aggressors, to wrest the initiative from U.S. hands and to recruit [?support], with the participation of the United Nations and the friendly countries, in order to implement the UN resolutions.

Arab force should be based on the Arab masses' initiatives against the capitulationist trends and the interests that enable the Israeli aggressors to continue their occupation and denial of Palestinian rights. Only these methods are adequate to get us out of the present situation.

DAMASCUS RADIO REPORTS SUPPRESSION CAMPAIGN IN IRAQ

JN052145Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] The killers in Baghdad are escalating and widening the scope of their crimes against our people in fraternal Iraq in a manner parallel to the crimes this regime is currently committing against Arab strugglers outside Iraq.

Information received from the Iraqi capital has affirmed that four soldiers from the 4th Division were recently executed. Among those executed were Martyrs Isma'il Muhammad al-Jaburi from Al-Hamadaniyah and Khalil (ad-Durani) from Mosul.

News received from Baghdad also states that three members of the Iraqi Communist Party in the city of As-Sulaymaniyah were assassinated. They are Mussa Husayn Yahya Muhmud and 'Amir Husayn. The same sources say that struggler 'Amir ash-Shaykh (Khudur) was assassinated after being accused of being affiliated with the [Syrian] Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. He was tortured and then transferred to a hospital where Iraqi intelligence elements poisoned his medicine.

A trade unionist struggler was assassinated in front of his fellow workers at the general establishment for iron and wood import located in the Bab az-Zubayr sector of Basra. He was killed for having opposed the fascist regime in Baghdad in connection with labor activities.

News received from Baghdad states that the At-Tikriti regime continues to expel and arrest scores of patriotic officers. In the first week of July, new lists were issued pensioning off scores of young officers whom Saddam Husayn believes to have had ties with Staff Col 'Adnan Sharif, who had been expelled from the army by being put on pension.

Since early this year, the regime of killers in Baghdad has assassinated, expelled and imprisoned hundreds of Iraqi Army officers, particularly from the air force. A number of pilot officers have been arrested, including Maj Gen Hamid Sha'ban.

The leaders of suppression in Baghdad also expelled Lt Gen Isma'il Tayih (al-Ghayni), commander of one of the army corps, and Maj Gen Dakhil al-Hilali.

The tribal At-Tikriti regime also apprehended large numbers of students at Mosul University.

Twenty-five employees of the General Surveying Department were also dismissed in accordance with Revolution Command Council Decision 685 of 22 May 1978.

The above decision also ordered the expulsion of 10 employees from the general establishment of agricultural guidance and education. (passage ommitted)

The above-mentioned decision also ordered the expulsion of various citizens from public posts in various areas of fraternal Iraq.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT

JN061256Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1250 GMT 6 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 6 August--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat in his office at noon today.

ALGERIA

PDRY FINANCE MINISTER DELIVERS MESSAGE TO BOUMEDIENE

LD080900Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] President Boumediene today received Fadl Muhsin 'Abd Allah, PDRY finance minister, who delivered a message from the Yemeni leaders. "The special envoy of the PDRY left Algiers this afternoon. He indicated that the message dealt with the situation in the region and was part of the exchange of views between countries that are members of the front of steadfastness and solidarity, and of the regular cooperation on all questions of common interest. Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah added that the message also dealt with the situation in the Arabian Peninsula. I am pleased to be able to underline that my visit to Algeria has had positive results. We are accustomed to Algeria's being always at the side of peoples fighting for their liberty and national sovereignty."

MOROCCO

L'OPINION VIEWS VANCE'S MIDDLE EAST VISIT

LD072002Y Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] Rabat, MAP--The situation in the Near East, with the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance--a visit which is being described as "the last chance"--is the main topic dealt with by the Moroccan dailies today.

L'OPINION, the Independence Party newspaper, considers that the U.S. secretary of state's new visit is an attempt to "maintain contact at any price in order to avoid the radicalization of the Egyptian position."

"Learning from the preceding meetings, the latest of which was held at Leeds Castle in Britain where no compromise was achieved, and especially from Cairo's hardening attitude which led to the sending home of the Israeli military delegation which was in Ismailia, all observers agree in emphasizing that this new trip by Mr Vance cannot achieve substantial results that will break the existing stalemate."

Recalling that Mr Vance is due in Alexandria today where he will have meetings with President as-Sadat, L'OPINION adds that no one there has any illusions about the outcome of Mr Vance's talks on the Near East.

"While emphasizing that Egypt does not see the need to continue talks with Israel if the Tel Aviv leaders do not abandon their intransigence, Cairo has let it be known that it does not want to assume responsibility for a definite break between the two sides. This is why Egyptian circles are refusing to consider Mr Vance's latest tour as the last chance for President as-Sadat's peace initiative."

BOUCETTA INTERVIEW COMMENTS ON MAURITANIA, AS-SADAT

LD072230Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Rabat--The Kuwaiti daily AL-QABAS has published a statement by M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation. He stresses Morocco's desire to have stability and peace prevail in the northwest African regions. He adds that the recent changes which have taken place in Mauritania have had no effect on Moroccan-Mauritanian relations.

M'hamed Boucetta confirmed Morocco's support for the Egyptian president's initiative which, as far as its content is concerned, accords with the resolutions adopted at the Arab summit held in Rabat in 1974.

M'hamed Boucetta emphasized that Morocco supports any effort aimed at unifying Arab ranks.

MAP REPORTS ON DEFENSE COMMITTEE TALKS IN NOUAKCHOTT

LD072240Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpts] Nouakchott--The meetings of the Moroccan-Mauritanian supreme committee for joint defense began here on Saturday with Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, chairman of the Mauritanian Military Committee of National Recovery and head of government, in the chair. The meeting with the visiting Moroccan military delegation lasted all day Saturday at the offices of the presidency.

It is noteworthy that about 9,000 troops are now in Mauritania in accordance with the defense treaty to help sister Mauritania repel the aggressive attacks against cities and economic and strategic targets carried out by mercenary gangs emanating from Algeria.

OSMAN GIVES INTERVIEW TO SAUDI AL-MADINAH

LD042155Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] The Saudi newspaper AL-MADINAH today published an interview with Prime Minister Ahmed Osman, given during the OAU summit conference in Khartoum. Asked why Morocco had agreed to discussion of the Sahara problem at the conference, Ahmed Osman said that Morocco believes that the file on this problem has been closed, but we do not want to deprive our African brothers of discussing a problem which concerns them from the standpoint of the spread of tension in North Africa. When we say, the prime minister added, that the file has been closed, we do not mean that the crisis and its dimensions have ended by closing the file itself. As a result of the attitude of some of our neighbors we welcome the OAU's discussion of this crisis. We did not object in the past and we do not object now to the convening of the extraordinary summit conference to study the situation in all aspects. Our position is clear and we see no reason for the maneuver that took place at the ministerial conference [words indistinct] to the delegates and creating a quarrel before the summit conference started.

"Speaking about future foreign interference in the continent and the idea of establishing an African armed force under the OAU to confront such intervention, Osman said: I believe that unless such intervention is ended once and for all, optimism about the future of our continent will be nonexistent. If the situation remains unchanged, our culture, unity and origin will collapse. It is inevitable that efforts must be devoted to solve our problems by ourselves.

"Morocco, from the premise of these principles, the prime minister said, tried to set an example to African countries when it intervened twice in Zaire. As regards the setting up of an effective force to halt interference, such (?matters) should be thought out and well planned. We hope that our intervention in Zaire will be an example to other countries and that they will rise to help each other."

The prime minister expressed the hope that the next nonalined meeting will not be held in Havana, "especially because of its clear bias toward the Soviet Union."

Regarding Arab unity, the prime minister said that Morocco calls for the closing of Arab ranks.

"Regarding the relation of the presence of Moroccan forces in Zaire to the possibility of Moroccan intervention once again to defend other African countries, the prime minister said: Morocco was not alone in defending Zaire and we hope that other African countries will help each other in the event of one of them being subjected to an armed aggression by foreign forces, while maintaining the basic principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of any friendly countries."

On relations with Saudi Arabia, he said they are exemplary.

INFORMATION MINISTER RECEIVES INA DIRECTOR

LD072246Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] The minister of information today received the director of the Baghdad INA, who is currently visiting Morocco at the invitation of the Ministry of Information, accompanied by the secretary general of the Arab News Agencies Union. The meeting dealt with the means of strengthening Moroccan-Iraqi cooperation.

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS ON AID TO FLOOD-STRICKEN AREAS

LD041146Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Sudanese Second Vice President Abel Alier, who is also chairman of the Flood Relief Committee, will leave Khartoum today to inspect the flood-stricken areas.

Yesterday Mr Alier met the U.S. charge d'affaires in Khartoum, who is also in charge of U.S. assistance to Sudan. The charge d'affaires announced a U.S. donation of 5,000 (?tons) of wheat and 2,000 tents.

Mr Alier also met the Ugandan ambassador, who expressed his country's readiness to help. A Ugandan plane with a cargo of (?wheat) arrived in Khartoum 2 days ago as the Ugandan Government's contribution.

Mr Alier also announced that Libya was to give aid in the form of cash and foodstuffs, and he announced the imminent arrival of a UN delegation which will assess the situation.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO LEADERS REPORTEDLY DEFECT TO PARIS-BASED AOSARIO

LD080817Y Casablanca LE MATIN in French 30 Jul 78 p 4 LD

[MAP report: "Four High Officials of the Puppet Organization Rejoin Aosario"]

[Text] Paris, 29 July (MAP)--The Association of the Natives of Sahara Formerly Under Spanish Domination (AOSARIO) announced in a communique published in Paris that "three members of the POLISARIO assembly comprising a delegation led by Ali Ould Salem, alias Said Moubarikse, while visiting Scandinavia to carry out a propaganda mission ordered by Algeria, were able to escape the vigilance of the Algerian military forces who were escorting them in order to rejoin the ranks of the AOSARIO.

Although fearing bloody Algerian reprisals against their families held hostage in Algeria, the three Saharan brothers as well as the head of the delegation contacted our representative in Sweden, who facilitated their escape."

The communique continues:

"These people, who held high positions of authority in the Algerian irregular army concealed under the initials of POLISARIO, are prepared to bring to the attention of local, continental and international authorities irrefutable evidence and indisputable arguments which will show plainly that the political apparatus of the POLISARIO is nothing other than the Algerian FLN, reinforced by a new section called the "Saharan Democratic Arab Republic." The military branch of the so-called POLISARIO consists of entire units of the Algerian National People's Army, demobilized to be later incorporated in commands which operate in conjunction with the general staff of Colonel Boumediene.

"In addition, these Saharan brothers provided details of the places where minors--kidnapped in Sahara by Algerian soldiers with the aim of blackmailing their parents to join them in Algerian territory--are currently being held. These innocent victims total 300, according to reports. They are dispersed in Bechar, Biskra and in an orphanage between Algiers and Blida."

VANCE LEAVES ISRAEL; SEEN OFF BY DAYAN

TA071136Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance ended his talks in Jerusalem this morning and left for Alexandria to meet with President as-Sadat and Egyptian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamil. Correspondent Dan Eshed has returned from the airport. [begin recording]

At Ben-Gurion Airport the U.S. secretary of state thanked Prime Minister Menahem Begin--who was not present at the airport--and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan--who came to bid the visiting secretary farewell--for the warm hospitality they had bestowed on him.

[Vance--in English] The discussions which we have had have been important and useful. As far as the United States is concerned, we shall persevere in the search for peace. There is no more important cause that we can devote out efforts to. I look forward to my meetings in Alexandria with President as-Sadat, which I will be having this evening, and again, thank you very much, Moshe.

[Eshed] Dayan did not address the U.S. secretary by his first name, Cyrus, or Cy, or by the nickname, Spider.

[Dayan--in English] I want to thank very much the secretary on his personal effort and on his mission on behalf of the President of the United States of America. We had very useful and good talks here and we are looking forward with much hope to his talks in Alexandria and we hope that after that we shall have somehow and some way the continuation in the peace-making process.

[Eshed] Indeed, the U.S. secretary of state has made a big effort during his talks here. For the time being, the members of his delegation are not optimistic. This causes Vance--who, as I have learned, is to appear before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee on 14 August and report on the Middle East--to be twice as apprehensive. Perhaps his salvation--and also the salvation of the cause--lies in tonight's talks in Alexandria. [end recording]

More about this morning: Before he left, Cyrus Vance went to President Yizhaq Navon. At the end of the talk the president told correspondents: [begin recording]

[Navon] I knew, I have heard about the talks that had taken place. I was briefed on the talks that had taken place with him, but it was good to hear that despite the fact that he sees the difficulties, he does not think that there is room for despair and thinks that ways to renew the negotiations can be found. [end recording]

ARENS URGES U.S. TO CHANGE LEBANON POLICY

TA071720Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The United States is exerting pressure on Israel not to help the Christians in Lebanon. This is said by the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Chairman, Moshe Arens. This policy by Washington, Mr Arens warns, is liable to bring about a liquidation of the Christians in Lebanon. Today the committee chairman sent a message to his counterparts in the Senate and the House of Representatives in Washington, and called on the United States to change its policy toward Lebanon.

The Security and Foreign Affairs Committee tomorrow will continue discussing events in Lebanon and will hear a report by the chief of staff and perhaps also a report by Minister Weizman. This discussion has been initiated by MK Yosef Tamir of the Likud. Mr Tamir told correspondent Zevi Lidar that in his view Israel should react to the slaughter of Christians and threaten Syria that we shall act toward preventing it.

PRESS CONFERENCE HELD ON WEEKLY CABINET SESSION

TA071907Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] In Jerusalem the weekly cabinet session just ended. We are switching over to political correspondent Shalom Qital: Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor came down with the cabinet statement in his hand. An impromptu press conference is being held to which are invited--due to the unusual hour and the unusual day of the weekly session--all the political correspondents who are here. Mr Naor, what is the cabinet statement, coming--I presume--in the wake of the report about Cyrus Vance?

[Naor] The cabinet heard from the prime minister and from the defense minister on the talks held by the Israeli delegation with the U.S. secretary of state. Three subjects were raised in those talks, namely: the talks between Israel and Egypt; the situation in Lebanon, in both parts of it; and the relations with the United States of America. The cabinet session--this part of it--had been declared today as a meeting of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, for reasons which I think are self-evident.

[Unidentified correspondent] Which part?

[Naor] This is the 18th time since the inception of the current cabinet that its session has been declared as a session of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, compared with 43 times in which cabinet sessions had been declared as such in the last year of the former cabinet.

The cabinet also approved today the departure of the prime minister for a week-long vacation as of tomorrow. The deputy prime minister will fill the post of the prime minister during his vacation.

The cabinet also heard a report by the deputy finance minister on the negotiations on the matter of wages and authorized the negotiators to remind all the parties that these negotiations should be concluded in 3 weeks, according to the resolutions of the cabinet. Thank you.

[Qital] Could you, despite the fact that the session was declared to have been in the framework of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, could you tell us how the cabinet now sees the prospects for a continued dialog with Egypt?

[Naor] The cabinet is always looking forward with high hopes. You will excuse me, I cannot elaborate on these talks. It is in the nature of things that not everything that has been said in talks of this kind deserves to be made public.

[Elimelekh Ram] Mr Naor, I'd like to understand. Is the entire subject of the report on the talks with the secretary of state included in the framework of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs?

[Naor] The report of the prime minister and of the defense minister on the talks with the U.S. secretary of state have been declared to have been a session of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Naor, the press actually reported during the day--the radio and television even last night--quite a lot of detail about the talks. What caused the cabinet today of all days to classify the talks or to impose censorship on them?

[Naor] Unfortunately, I have not had time yet to read everything that has been published about this because I have been busy reading other material. As for the reasons that have caused the cabinet to decide as it did--this is quite self-evident. The issues that are being referred to here are state secrets of the first order, which have ramifications for matters of our national security, and it is better that these things remain in that same closed room in which they were presented.

[Unidentified correspondent] Did the cabinet discuss the question of whether to classify the meeting? Because you also read to us a whole statement about 18 and 43....

[Naor] The cabinet did not discuss the question whether to classify the session. The cabinet sessions are, according to their nature, their content, according to law and regulation, closed. Cabinet sessions are not sessions of the Knesset. They take place behind closed doors. The meaning of a cabinet session being declared as a session of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs is twofold. On the one hand it serves to emphasize the secret nature of the things discussed, and on the other it authorizes the censorship to apply its consideration and, according to that consideration to specify whether to allow or to forbid the publication of certain reports linked to the subject of the discussions.

[Qital] Arye Naor, while the cabinet was in session, we heard a statement by the chairman of the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, Moshe Arens, who spoke about the United States pressing Israel not to aid the Christians in Lebanon. Was this subject raised in the cabinet?

[Naor] I said that in the talks between the Israeli and the U.S. representatives the situation in both parts of Lebanon, among other things, had been discussed, and that this was reported to the Israeli cabinet. You will naturally not expect a cabinet secretary to react to statements of the chairman of the Security and Foreign Affairs Committee.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Cabinet Secretary, were the figures that came at the end of your statement, regarding the number of times that the cabinet declared its sessions to have been sessions of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, as compared to the number of times in the former cabinet--is this too included in today's cabinet resolution?

[Naor] The cabinet cannot decide how many times the former cabinet declares its sessions as sessions of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. These are figures. It is difficult to dispute figures.

[Unidentified correspondent] Was it decided at the cabinet session that these figures would be released at this press conference?

[Naor] I hope you will agree that I do not reveal things only on my own authority.

Begin Comments on Session

TA071911Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said at the end of the cabinet session that the cabinet had not adopted any new resolutions today as there had been no need for them. He added that now we are waiting for the report of the U.S. envoy on the talks in Alexandria. We expressed readiness for a continuation of the tripartite talks, the prime minister said, and now we are awaiting Egypt's reply.

In answer to a question whether the reports are true about U.S. pressure on Israel regarding Lebanon, the prime minister said that there is no such pressure.

BEGIN AIDE QUESTIONS AS-SADAT'S INTENTIONS

TA070938Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Aug 78 p 2 TA

[Excerpts] "President as-Sadat at the time put a stop to the talks in Jerusalem and withdrew the Egyptian delegation just when progress in the talks was beginning. The same has happened again. When the Israeli delegation at Leeds Castle submitted proposals providing for significant concessions As-Sadat reacted by making his position more extreme. This is not a good sign with respect to his real intentions and it is this issue that we are discussing so much in Israel."

This was said by the director general of the prime minister's office, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, at a dinner at the Sinai Hotel in Tel Aviv.

Dr Ben-Elisar said that in contrast to Israel's concessions the Egyptians had not moved from their initial positions calling for Israel to withdraw to the 1967 lines. The American position is close to that of the Egyptians.

He added that despite this there is hope that in the end As-Sadat will become convinced that he will not get what Israel is unable to give. This on condition that Israeli society and the Jewish people stand behind the government.

However, if As-Sadat continues to stand by his demands he will prove that his intentions are not good and that all he desires is to create a tool with the aid of which Israel will be destroyed.

MINISTER SHARON EMPHASIZES 'NO CONCESSIONS' TO EGYPT

TA071630Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Excerpt] Minister Ari'el Sharon said it has become clear now to the Egyptians that they are no longer able to extort concessions from Israel and that they will have to sit down at the negotiating table. The negotiations have reached the moment of truth, Ari'el Sharon says, and Israel will make no more concessions, not even verbal ones. We shall demand direct negotiations, in which the parties lay their cards on the table. Minister Sharon was speaking during a tour for correspondents in settlements established last year in Judaea and Samaria.

IDF SPOKESMAN DENIES LEBANESE ACCUSATIONS ON SHELLING

TA072111Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The Lebanese Army High Command claimed that the IDF shelled the regular Lebanese Army battalion encamped at Kawkaba this evening, that in the shelling three soldiers were injured and that heavy damage was caused to vehicles and equipment. In answer to a question, the IDF spokesman flatly denied these claims.

LEBANESE BATTALION SHELLED BY 'NEW' MILITIA

TA081029Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Aug 78 TA

[Text] A new militia is active in the Christian enclave north of Metulla and its guns were the ones that shelled the Lebanese battalion encamped in Kawkaba last night. Our correspondents report that the new militia is named "the Tigers of the Artillery Men" [Nimrey Hatot Hanim], an organization of Sham'un loyalists.

The commander of this militia said that he had instructed his people to shell the Lebanese battalion after he heard, on the communications system, the commander of the battalion, Major Shahin, ordering his soldiers to change the deployment of their guns. An artillery ammunition dump of the Lebanese battalion exploded due to the shelling; one of the battalion's soldiers was killed and six were wounded. Several armored cars were also hit. The wounded were transferred to Ablah, a rear base of the regular battalion. Several of the Lebanese battalion's vehicles which tried to leave for the north this morning were stopped by the terrorists near Hasbayya. The terrorists announced that they would not allow the transfer of anything but wounded soldiers to the north.

The commanders of the UN force in the Kawkaba region complained this morning that several of their posts were also hit by the Christians' shelling last night. Major Haddad conferred with them to hear their complaint.

RADIO IDENTIFIES 'TRUE' COMMANDER OF LEBANESE BATTALION

NC060701Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, reports that Israel is now viewing the possibility of the Lebanese battalion's entry into the south with extreme gravity. This is in view of the disclosure of the true identity of many of its personnel. Our correspondent has learned that the true commander of the battalion is not the Christian Adib Sa' D, but a Moslem officer named Ibrahim Shahin. Other lower ranking officers in the battalion are, in fact, Syrians.

HADDAD ON AGREEMENT WITH LEBANESE FORCE, BRIBES

TA061800Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 6 Aug 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpts] Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, talked with Major Haddad today. [begin recording]

Everything is all right. With this short sentence in Hebrew Major Sa'd Haddad expressed his feeling in the wake of the agreement reached between him and the commanders of the Lebanese battalion encamped in the region of Kawkaba. Haddad refused to elaborate, but he added that the agreement had the backing of all fighters and citizens in southern Lebanon and is completely satisfactory.

Haddad also revealed that the agreement includes a cease-fire for an unlimited period which, God willing, will continue as long as the agreement is kept by the soldiers, commanders and those who sent the battalion, whose identity Haddad did not desist from mentioning and condemning--the Syrians.

As for the offer made by the French General Jean-Paul Cuq, the deputy commander of the UNIFIL forces in southern Lebanon, Haddad told me that first of all you are mistaken, Haddad said with a smile. We are not talking about $150,000. We are talking about $200,000. Not everybody can be bought and sold, even though there is an Arab proverb that every man has his price. [end recording]

HADDAD COMMENTS ON TALKS IN S. LEBANON REPORTED

TA070755Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] On the eastern front of southern Lebanon in the Kawkaba area the cease-fire was generally maintained last night except for several shells that were fired in the early hours of the night. Today, the contacts will continue between the commander of the Christian forces in southern Lebanon and Col Adib Sa'd, one of the commanders of the front. Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, reports: [begin recording]

Maj Sa'd Haddad is taking credit for the quiet that prevailed over the last 24 hours. I hope quiet continues to prevail, because we do not want wars, he told me. After all, all Lebanese seek the welfare of their country and it is therefore our duty to expel the Syrians and their terrorist allies.

Haddad told me yesterday about an agreement that has been reached between himself and the commanders of the Lebanese battalion which apparently is basically a mutual decision to cease firing for an indefinite period of time while promising to continue the contacts in the hope of eventually thawing the freeze. In this relaxed atmosphere of the cease-fire, Haddad is to meet with the Lebanese colonel, Adib Sa'd, once again. The latter, who is actually the commander of the southern command of the Lebanese Army, has for the past week held contacts with Haddad on everything which concerns the battalion that is stuck in Kawkaba. The meeting will take place in the Druze village of Al Mari on the slopes of Mt Hermon.

It seems that Haddad prefers--for obvious reasons--to conduct the contacts with Adib Sa'd, who is a member of the Maronite sect, and not with the battalion's actual commander, Maj Ibrahim Shahin, who is a Moslem. Haddad told me that indeed he also knew Shahin well and that he had in the past been a good friend of his, but that since the Syrian infiltration into Lebanon Shahin has deteriorated and now, to Haddad's regret, he is completely imprisoned by Damascus and the Ba'th ideology. On the other hand, the contacts with Adib Sa'd, Haddad told me, have been held in a relaxed manner.

In general, in the last few days, Haddad has been confident, more quiet and calm than previously. The fear that Israel would, supposedly, pressure him into allowing the battalion to pass through the enclave has also been bothering him to a lesser degree. He now thinks that Israel, too, is convinced of the real identity of the battalion and the purpose of those who sent it. Therefore, he maintains, Israel understands that the battalion constitutes a threat to its security, if it should indeed pass through the enclave and its men take up positions in Tibnin. [end recording]

LABOR PARTY STANCE ON VIENNA DOCUMENT, PEACE TALKS

TA061938Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Aug 78 TA

[Text] This evening the Labor Party officially confirmed its support for the Vienna document and that its representatives will vote in favor of its being endorsed as a document of the Socialist International.

At a meeting of the party's bureau held this evening it was also decided to clarify that the Labor Party opposes a Palestinian state, negotiations with the PLO and a return to the 1967 borders.

MK Shim'on Peres said that there is no basis for the report that the Labor Party will be satisfied by minor border changes in the framework of a territorial compromise.

RABIN, PERES DISAGREE OVER LABOR PARTY PEACE PLAN

TA041314Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Aug 78 p 16 TA

[By Moshe Meisels]

[Text] During the political discussion that took place at the Labor Party office, former Prime Minister Yizhaq Rabin disagreed with Party Chairman Shim'on Peres' positions on more than one occasion.

Peres thought that the party need not draw up a detailed and clear political plan so that it does not open itself up to unnecessary criticism at home and abroad. In his opinion, the party could be satisfied with making only a declaration of principles with respect to Judaea and Samaria, a declaration which might be acceptable to Egypt as well.

Rabin argued from time to time that it is impossible to be satisfied merely with vague formulations, and that the time has come to say things clearly in a detailed plan.

Unlike Peres, who thinks no hard and fast rules concerning the Rafah approaches should be drawn, Rabin clearly demanded that a firm stand be taken concerning Israeli sovereignty in the Rafah approaches and that we should offer Egypt an exchange of territories to retain this sovereignty.

Peres remarked: "I suggest that my colleagues not get involved in the issue of sovereignty over the Rafah approaches. I have no objection if members of the party propose it, but if we say that we insist on such sovereignty, we will lose good will. They will say that we are even more extremist than Begin's cabinet.

Rabin claimed that he did not think it was yet possible to reach peace by making a territorial compromise. If the United States and the Israeli Cabinet agree that the future of the West Bank should only be determined after 5 years, then this should be acceptable to the Labor Party as well, he said.

Peres replied that he also thought the reference was not to a territorial compromise in Judaea and Samaria now, but in the future.

Rabin said: One should also make it clear that a territorial compromise, as far as we are concerned, is not merely minor alterations. If someone says minor alterations, our answer should be: No. A territorial compromise should be based, as far as we are concerned, on defensible borders.

Rabin by implication also disagreed with Peres' disclosure that it is possible to reach an arrangement with As-Sadat concerning Jerusalem. This is not so, Rabin claimed. The Arabs have in the past talked about the possibility of a settlement within the municipality, but not about a territorial compromise in the city. They still mean the same thing.

Rabin was praised this week in the Likud for--contrary to his colleagues--having shown restraint in the campaign of personal attacks on the prime minister, having maintained a parliamentary style and having limited his criticism to a substantive political discussion. By the way: This week, Rabin continued meeting with personalities and circles in the Labor Party in order to rebuild his status in the party. This week, for the first time in years, he even held a private talk with MK Abba Eban.

DMC LEADER ON WITHDRAWAL FROM COALITION

NC051237Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The secretary of the Democratic Movement for Change, Ram Ron, says that those who are expecting a quick withdrawal of the DMC from the government after the election of the new council are liable to be disappointed.

In a statement to our correspondent, Asher Schwartz, Ram Ron said that the decision whether his party will withdraw from the coalition or continue to participate will be made only after a series of fundamental debates in the DMC Council. He emphasized that whatever the decision will be, it will commit all the members and leaders of the movement. If anyone intends not to honor the decision of the majority, he will have to draw the conclusions.

The new DMC Council will convene on Wednesday.

Foreign Meddling Seen

TA061423Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Aug 78 p 2 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] According to information coming into our hands, and it is coming from particularly good sources, not only Israeli elements but also foreign elements are now meddling with the DMC's affairs. Specifically, we are talking here of the members of one of the important foreign embassies in Israel who are cultivating close relations with Shinui leaders and are encouraging them to withdraw from the coalition in order to isolate Begin. Since there are no secrets, the Shinui members must be doubly careful so as to prevent a situation which will also be unpleasant for them.

TERRORIST CELLS DISCOVERED IN JUDAEA, SAMARIA

TA071739Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Security forces uncovered in Judaea and Samaria five groups of terrorists and several dozen people were arrested. In their possession were found large quantities of arms and of sabotage material, including revolvers and handgrenades. Several sabotage actions in Israel are being attributed to a number of the arrested. One terrorist led the investigators to a sabotage device that was ready to be activated and which he intended to plant the next day at the Yad Eliyahu quarter in Tel Aviv.

SHAH SPEAKS ON ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTION

LD080122Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 5 Aug 78 LD

[Address to the nation by Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, shahanshah of Iran, on the 72nd anniversary of the Iranian constitution--recorded]

[Text] I congratulate you, the people, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Iranian constitution. Seventy two years ago today the aspirations of the country's freedom-seekers were translated into action, and the decree of constitutionalism was issued. It was a day full of new hopes. For all the progressive and advanced countries of that time, particularly in Europe, the principles of the constitution were of great interest. Everybody was of the opinion that it would be good to emulate the principles. One cannot deny that the principle of democracy is truly good.

However, in order to deal with this chapter, we should also take a look at the past. Within a year of establishment of the constitution 72 years ago, owing to the weakness of the central government, the country was divided into spheres of influence, with the Russians in the north and Britain in the south. The creation of these two spheres of influence led to some figures favoring the north and others supporting the south. There were a few patriotic and independent personalities, but they could do nothing.

This regrettable situation lasted until World War I. During this period, there was no such thing as a central government and in every corner of the country tribal chiefs enjoyed virtual autonomy. On the other hand, foreign troops had arrived in Iran on their own; there were Russian forces, British forces, and Turkish forces in alliance with Germany. Subsequently, not only was the Iranian territory occupied, but these forces had an open field. The only reaction shown at this period was the emigration of a number of people from Iran. [words indistinct]

However, the situation changed with the October revolution, as the British Government became the unchallenged power. Consequently, in 1918, a treaty was signed which virtually handed over our sovereignty to Britain. Both during this period and prior to it, these two governments had created forces for themselves: the cossacks in the north and the British authority in the south, with the country's own gendarmerie with its [words indistinct] in the middle.

With the conclusion of the 1919 treaty, there were certain reactions. Consequently, the 1299 [Iranian year] coup d'etat put an end to the 1919 treaty, and a new chapter was written in Iranian history. It would take one a long time to describe all the unfortunate events which took place in Iran prior to 1299. Some of them I have already mentioned in my book, My Country's Mission, as well as other sources. In any case, according to historians, just to give you an example, no one was safe in the streets of Tehran after dark, for the bully boys were running the streets. The highwayman Nayeb Husayn Kashi used to stop traffic right outside Tehran. The tribal chiefs had autonomous governments of their own. These chiefs had the right to decide life or death for their subjects. At the risk of repeating myself, I should mention that, in those days if someone wished to visit Mashhad, he had to go through today's Babolsar, which in those days was called Mashhadsar, and then catch a boat to Russia. From there he could reach Mashhad--all this because the Tehran-Mashhad route, if it could be called that, was not safe. Similarly, people went by way of Turkey and Mesopotamia to arrive in Khuzestan.

In Khuzestan itself, there was a shaykh who had signed a special agreement with Britain, making the region a protectorate of that country. As for the conditions of the roads and holy shrines, like the holy shrine of Iman Reza in those days, one must say that they were becoming derelict. This was the situation at that time. Consequently, to make the present achievements possible, the founder of the Pahlavi dynasty, Reza Shah the Great, had first to render the country safe, had to make the rebels and those not submitting to the central government adhere to the law. If you remember the period, when my father was the war minister, he once remarked: "I wish I had 1,000 matching rifles." However, considering the higher morale among the people, he managed to make the country safe, even with the limited force under him. Within a few years the country became an example of safety. It is a well-known story that at this period any woman carrying a bag of gold could travel to any point without fear or danger.

In any case the country's progress had begun. Let me cite a few figures about the 1299-1300 period. The country's population was 9.7 million; gross national income reached 4.5 billion rials; per capita income was 460 rials; the country's foreign reserves were nonexistent; exports equaled 500 million rials; oil exports totaled 300 million rials and nonoil exports 200 million rials; imports were 600 million rials; the country's total budget was 400 million rials. As for banks and companies, volume of currency was 1.3 billion rials, and the country had but two banks--the Russian bank and the British bank. There was another bank, the Ottoman bank, which operated before the 1300 period.

I do not remember any of these banks' windows being smashed in those days. Was it because they were foreigners'? As for bank branches throughout the country, there were 17; there were no registered companies and thus no capital from registered companies. As for education: number of high schools: 612; number of pupils: 55,000; number of universities and institutions of higher education: none; number of university students: none, for we had no university; number of university graduates: none.

Health--number of hospitals and maternity units: 9; number of doctors: 12; number of nurses: 4. As for the country's dams--number of storage dams: none; capacity: obviously none; and farmable land: none. Electricity production equaled 2 kwh per person. That was in 1300. Right now, it is 544. Total length of the country's roads: 2,500 km; asphalt roads: none. Length of main railways, that is the railroad built by the Russians between Jolfa and Tabriz as well as the railroad called the "smoking machine," between Tehran and Shah 'Abd al-Azim--that was it. Number of motor vehicles: 600; number of sedans: 500; number of trucks and the like: 100.

As for the Iranian Army, unfortunately, it included, as I mentioned, the cossacks controlled by the Russians, and another part run by the British. The country's treasury was so empty that army personnel had another job on the side; they included shopkeepers selling eggs and logs. Once in a while or once a month, they would report for some training. With regard to their salaries, and that of civil servants, at times they received bricks in payment. I do not wish to deal any further with this tragic period.

But we must draw a few comparisons: first from 1941, when, for reasons of the continued weakness and gullibility and the strategic position of Iran, British and Russian forces made a surprise attack on this country, and my father was forced to abandon the country. I will describe the course which began in September 1941.

The first day I went to the National Consultative Assembly to take the oath of (allegiance) to protect the territorial integrity of the country precisely coincided with the occupation of the capital by foreign forces. The inherent patriotism of the people of Iran well manifested itself on that day: They almost carried the automobile which took their young monarch to the Majlis on their shoulders, and this was the biggest heartfelt bond given to me to impel me to remain loyal to my oath. These episodes were described in the book: Mission for My Country. I described how the occupation force tried in particular to weaken the Iranian monarchy, that is to say myself, and how even the military attache of a foreign country tried to divest me of my capacity as commander in chief of the armed forces of Iran.

After the country's period of occupation, the opportunists struggled in every direction without any sense of responsibility, so much so that not even one state budget was ratified until 1953, and no task or project can be completed without at least a monthly budget. The sense of responsibility was so slight that precisely a few months prior to the events of Azerbaijan, a minority embarked on obstructionism, that is, did not permit the formation of a legal government. This very lack of a legal government became the biggest incentive to the launching of a regime in Azerbaijan, where a number declare their autonomy. Since there was still a state of war, the Iranian force which was moving in the direction of Azerbaijan was halted by the foreign force in Sharifabad of Qazvin, and the province of Azerbaijan was virtually separated from Iran.

At this time, what used to exercise my mind and heart was the feeling that was surely present among the majority of the Iranian people, to such an extent that when I decided either to live honorably or die honorably--the aspect of honor was essential--despite all the risks and perhaps the advice of a number of people, I left for Azerbaijan as commander in chief of the Iranian force. And thanks to the prowess of the imperial Iranian Army and the brave people of Azerbaijan, we toppled that regime, as will be remembered by some, in less than 48 hours, and the monolithic unity of Iran was established for the second time.

Since that year, there have been political intrigues which have been the subject of published documents in later times: Foreign states are accustomed to publishing certain documents after the expiry of 5 years; documents that have been published recently clarify the role of a great many people in this course of events.

The oil game began. It seemed appropriate that the Iranian people, who wished to sign an oil agreement, should do so. Hence it was required that a number of people in the capacity of champions of the rights of the Iranian people should take a lead in this matter. What was the result of this episode? The result was the closure of the Iranian oil wells. Those who opposed the military government throughout their entire political life, and who even opposed the circulation of currency which was backed by military government, during their own period of leadership threatened their opponent by every means, including detention and imprisonment, and ultimately by proposing the sale of Iranian oil at a 50 percent reduction--in fact proposed conditions which, from the material viewpoint, were harsher for Iran than the Gusse-Golshahian agreement.

These matters eventually led to the events of 16 August. Prior to this, we saw once again the same old design when a military attache of a foreign embassy wanted to take away the post of commander in chief of the Iranian forces from the Iranian monarch.

Dissension occurred even among the group which wished to settle the oil issue; they opposed this matter, and, finally, until 16 August when the government--the rebel government which in violation of all the principles of the constitution, in their own image of administering the security by means of the tanks which they had stationed everywhere--found themselves in a tight corner, they virtually joined forces with the communists. A number of the originators of this junta toasted the health of Peshavari after and even before the events of Azerbaijan.

As the Iranian nation observed that the rebel government of the time, in coalition with the Tudeh followers, wanted to shake the foundation of the country, the nation embarked on an uprising. This uprising was, incidentally, started by the ordinary unarmed people. Of course, after a short time the armed forces joined them, women and children all attacked the center of rebellion and wiped out that phoney edifice. August 19, 1953, was the focal point of the history of this country. The people asked for their monarch a second time, and they expressed their bond and sentiments in a way that once again made me feel an additional sense of responsibility; hence, in addition to the principles of the constitution and the constitutional monarch, I am a monarch who has been desired by the people twice for the direction of their destiny and the preservation of the interests of the country.

Between 1953 and 1962 we tried to run the country's affairs normally by proposing laws and the implementation of reforms. Even before these events, I had begun to distribute my own properties among my subjects at the time. The self-same so-called government which was commissioned to execute my order in this way hindered the land reforms and even the distribution of my own personal property. But after 1953 we started thinking of land reforms, the elimination of feudalism, and thought of making into owners the farmers who worked on the land. And, of course, for the second time I rapidly started distributing my own property among the farmers. As for the rest, we presented a bill to the Majlis, and when it came out of the Majlis, it had no teeth. No progress could be made in that way.

We could see that the world was rapidly advancing toward progress--social, economic and technological progress--but Iran was stationary. We reached the conclusion that no independent country in the modern world could survive without access to a minimum of social advancement. So in the end I reached the conclusion that a far-reaching revolution was required to transform a feudalist and backward Iran. In February 1963 I put the first six points of my revolution to a referendum--as foreigners call it--which is perhaps the most genuine from of election procedure in which the people's vote is cast directly with regard to certain specific issues. Those who recall the events remember that women still did not have the right to vote, but anyone who could--even those who had never voted before in their lives--went to the polls on that day and endorsed the six points.

The shah-nation revolution was launched on that day, 15 years ago. During these 15 years the six points of the revolution were extended to become 19 points of the revolution. Each one of the points was later approved by the representatives of the people. In other words, these are no longer points or principles of the revolution. These are now acts of parliament approved by the representatives of the nation. If one studied these 19 principles, one would realize that they encompass all aspects of the country's life. Let us not mention the fact that not even one of these principles has any precedence in the 3,000 years of Iranian history. Most of these 19 points are perhaps without precedence even in the most advanced countries of the world

For example, if you talk to the farmer--a peasant in the past--who is now a landowner, he would tell you that he feels as though he has been born again. The new situation, he would say, has given me new life, for in the past I was a serf, and the landlord had the power to do anything he wanted, but today I am an independent individual. I would not like to go into the oppressive measures exercised against the serfs by the landlords in those days. However, the consequences of this very land reform--quite apart from the fact that it gave the Iranian farmer a personality and importance--should also be seen in terms of output of a person who is now working for himself and who is naturally working harder than in the past. Before the land reform Iran's wheat output never exceeded 3 million tons a year. Today, however, it should be in the region of 6 million tons. Iran's grain output in general must have doubled in the same period.

Other points of our revolution: One of these concerned the workers and their profit-sharing of up to 20 percent of the profits of factories; this has been so successful, particularly these days, that profits have become more in line with productivity, that these days the workers' share of the profits amounts to 3, 4 or even 5 months' worth of their wages. There are other points of the revolution that enable the Iranian worker to participate in up to 49 percent of the shares of the factories. In other words, the worker is no longer an individual exploited by the employer. He is now a part and parcel of the family in the plant concerned, and in fact a partner along with the manager of the factory and other shareholders. Progress in labor affairs in Iran is so conspicuous that everyone is now talking about it at home and abroad.

The same goes for the other 19 points of the revolution, which, as I said, have been approved by the Iranian nation. The secret of the success of the revolution and the harmony that exists between the shah and the people must be sought in the ancient Iranian history and monarchy and the people's attachment to their monarchy. I do not want to go into the various aspects of the developments in the past 15 years in great detail, because it would take a long time. Some aspects of these developments have been written in the book The White Revolution, and some other aspects in the book Toward a Great Civilization.

So when I look at my own reign, the principles of the Iranian constitution, the Iranian fundamental law and Iran's national traditions, I note that these have gone through several different periods. There was the period of World War II, the period of suffering the utmost hardships, the period of foreign interference, particularly the foreigners' policy aimed at weakening the Iranian monarch. This was because this or that person can be installed and dismissed at will--through provocations or some other means--but if the monarch is an independent-minded monarch he can cause trouble for foreigners.

As you have seen, your independent monarch has truly nationalized the Iranian oil resources. Those who have been following matters relating to the oil industry know the full meaning now of the full and absolute sovereignty of the Iranian people and government over their natural resources. We now only sell oil to a buyer. All other operations are handled by ourselves. How much do we sell the oil for? If you recall, in 1952, when oil companies were in charge of these affairs, the Iranian oil and that of other Persian gulf countries was sold at $2.14 a barrel. The oil companies, all of a sudden, decided to cut the price to $1.79 a barrel. To top it all, they also deducted their own profits from this price. So what we got was something in the region of half this price. Today, by contrast, Iranian oil is being sold for $12.70 a barrel. You can judge the difference for yourselves.

Of course, I recall many things. I remember, for instance, the first step we took, namely the agreement we concluded with an Italian firm on the basis of 75 percent for Iran and 25 percent for them. Some of our own people warned us not to get into conflict with oil moguls; this is dangerous. Incidentally, after a few years we actually saw how they tried to stage-manage certain developments, but they were unsuccessful. The awakened Iranian nation, the strength of the direct link between the shah and the nation, overcame all obstacles, and we scored all these achievements.

It would perhaps be appropriate for me also to mention oil revenues. Some 57 years ago oil exports amounted to 0.3 billion rials. On the day of the revolution it was 60.8 billion rials; today 1,653.3 billion rials. The conclusion I want to draw from this is: There were several periods; that is, the sad World War II period; there was the irresponsible behavior of those who were sitting in the Majlis as representatives of the nation; there was the fact concerning the number of illiterates and literates in the country at the time. I think when I acceded to the throne the number of literates amounted to about 10 percent of the population. When we launched the revolution it was slightly more than 20 percent. Today this is more than 50 percent.

Some 57 years ago the number of pupils amounted to 55,000. On the day of revolution this amounted to 2,071,000. Today, it is 8,915,000. There were no universities and institutes of higher education 57 years ago. There were 22 on the day of the revolution; today there are 113. There were no university students 57 years ago. There were 22,600 on the day of the revolution; today 159,003. There were no graduates from institutes of higher education 57 years ago; there were 3,200 on the day of the revolution; today 37,500. I have already given you the figures for the numbers of doctors and nurses before the reign of the Pahlavi dynasty. I repeat, however, that the number of doctors on the day of the revolution amounted to 3,470; today there are 15,393. There were four nurses 57 years ago; 2,125 on the day of the revolution; today 6,300.

Notwithstanding all the astonishing achievements we have scored in the past 15 years--achievements which the world has frequently remarked upon, noting that no country has ever made such progress in such a period of time--we have now come to the idea, in fact I came to think of this idea 2 years ago, that in a country where the farmer is free; where the worker is a shareholder; where the number of literates has reached the level described; where the number of universitites has reached the level mentioned; where such progress has been achieved in all aspects of life; where an affluent middle class has emerged; where more than 1 million people leave Tehran city alone for their weekend vacation in their own private means of transport--in such a country we should increasingly provide facilities so that the people can increasingly participate in their affairs and in their destiny. I have, of course, referred to such issues in my book: Toward a Great Civilization.

Now, however, I must get down to the specifics, because one of the areas in which the people should have a greater participation concerns the expression of their will within the village council, the arbitration councils, the provincial councils and, finally, in the Majlis and the Senate.

What I can tell you definitively is that elections must be 100 percent free. That is, everyone should be able to cast his vote, and his vote should be counted. Those who want the country to progress toward the great civilization know what to do, how to vote.

Should there be certain people not interested in this, their votes will nevertheless be cast in freedom and their votes will be counted. It will then be seen by everyone how many people support the move toward the great civilization and how many people constitute the others.

We have introduced certain reforms in the judiciary and will introduce more to enable people increasingly to defend themselves. Much has been done during the past 1 to 2 years in this regard. We will provide political freedoms to the same extent that they exist in democratic European countries. In common with democratic countries there will be a limit to the exercise of freedom. This will be defined. This means that if we are going to have freedom of assembly this must be first of all a peaceful one; no one should carry arms; the meeting place should not block the roads, and, at any rate, it should take place with prior permission. The freedom of expression ahd the freedom of the press will be totally unfettered, but again within the provisions of the press law, which could be copied from anywhere. So there will be freedom in this area, but slander and lies would become something either for the attorney general to handle or a matter for a private prosecution.

The Iranian imperial order, the Iranian monarchy, the destiny of Iran--these cannot be allowed to become a toy in the hands of a handful of people. The country's population is now perhaps over 34.7 million. Patriots and those who want to see the country at the zenith of advancement will express their views. Others will also be allowed to express their views. In the final analysis, of course, it is a democratic government, a government of all the people. That is to say, we respect the people's votes. It is, at the same time, the duty of everyone to enlighten the people, explain things to the people about the nature of the present generation in the country. In this the law will always reign supreme. Provocation, thuggery and going beyond the law could not be accepted by any country. The most democratic countries, in particular, could not permit this. I hope this new chapter we have initiated, that is, maximum freedom within the law, will achieve favorable results, and the Iranian state will march forward both toward progress, advancement and great civilization and toward true freedom and democracy--a responsible democracy, a democracy that would be a source of pride for the country.

This, of course, is not an easy path to tread. In 10 years' time the country's population will reach the 50 million mark. In 20 years' time it could increase to 60 million or 65 million people. By the time the plans worked out come into fruition--plans which enjoy the endorsement of the Rastakhiz Party and which have been mentioned in the book, Toward A Great Civilization--the per capita income of an Iranian will reach the 300,000-rial mark; that is, a consumer society; that is, a country in which money spent will reach astronomical figures. Of course,whether we consider the past 15 years or the future, in a society which is making such a rapid progress and in which vast sums are spent, we would also regrettably have waste. Should there be some who are responsible for such waste, they should be dealt with in accordance with the law. Should we have, in a consumer society, waste resulting from moral weakness and upbringing, we should exert efforts to purify morals. One of the best bases from which these efforts could stem must be respect for the lofty Islamic teachings. From my early childhood I have been involved with religious and Islamic matters. That is, I am a devout Moslem. As a head of state I am saying that any society needs spiritual things, above all a religion, for it is this that brings about consolidation in society.

So, I, having taken the oath to protect the constitutional law, to protect the country's territory and borders, to protect the Shi'ite religion based on 12 imams, have certain duties. You, the people, also have these duties--the people who should propagate these spiritual things and moral principles.

A 50 million or 65 million strong society, in which there would perhaps be no illiterates, would require a different manner of administration from what is used today. That is why I once again refer to running a responsible democracy with increasing participation of the people and, ultimately, with the people's say in all affairs. The coincidence of the constitutional festival provides a greater blessing to the statement that every day we should increasingly prepare ourselves for such a government, a democratic government--a democratic government, as I have said, that is responsible, works in the interest of the country and society, not like some of the nations which are striking at their own roots and plunging themselves into degeneration and destruction.

Now that the holy month of Ramadan is coinciding with the constitutional festival I congratulate you, dear countrymen, and I hope during this holy month everyone will strive to bring himself closer to God in order to reap its wordly and eternal rewards.

AFGHANISTAN

USSR MILITARY ADVISERS ASSUME COMMAND POSITIONS

LD071105Y London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 7 Aug 78 p 5 LD

[Bruce Loudon report: "Russians Take Key Posts in Afghan Army and State"]

[Text] Kabul--Russian military advisers, who have been "flooding" into Afghanistan since April's communist-led coup, have now assumed command positions down to brigade level within the armed forces, according to informed sources in Kabul, the Afghan capital.

It is estimated that there are now more than 2,500 Russian military "advisers," all of them officers and technical specialists, while civilian administrators sent by the Kremlin have also moved into key positions.

"Wherever you go, there are Russians or East Germans. They obviously think they are on to another winner here," said one source.

Kabul is alive with rumours of dissension within the armed forces. At least some of the young officers who led April's insurrection against the regime of President Daud are said to be deeply opposed to having Russians in command positions. A few days ago, President Nur Mohammad Taraki found it necessary to address tank commanders and warn them that "if anyone plots here, especially in the army, he will receive severe punishment for his acts."

'Colonel Bowl-lickers'

The 61-year-old leader complained bitterly of plotting against his "progressive" regime and said that "the bowl-lickers of the new and old colonialism are treacherously trying to nip in the bud our Khalqi (people's) state."

What seems clear four months after the bloody coup is that Moscow has elevated Afghanistan to the front rank of those states where it wants to exert its influence. Given Afghanistan's pivotal geographical position in relation to Persia and Pakistan, both primary targets for the Kremlin's hegemonistic designs, it seems certain that what Moscow wants is to ensure that the communist takeover in Kabul is made "irreversible." For this reason Mr Taraki should be allowed a veneer of independence to consolidate his position.

Brezhnev Doctrine

Many believe the Soviet commitment is already such that if an attempt was made to overthrow the pro-communist Taraki regime, the Kremlin would rapidly invoke the "Brezhnev Doctrine" and move in--rather as it did in Czechoslovakia--thereby ensuring that its plans in the region suffer no setback.

Such dissension as exists within the 700,000-man army, as well as elsewhere in Afghan society, has found a reflection in the past few days in Kabul, with Russian-supplied heavy tanks again taking up positions around public buildings. The former Presidential Palace, now the "People's House" is under heavy guard.

An 11 pm curfew has been suddenly reinforced. The beams of powerful scanners sweep the night sky and pick out every detail on the slopes of the surrounding Hindu Kush.

Small Arms Fire

The rattle of small arms fire can frequently be heard at night, sometimes even before the curfew is imposed. It is generally assumed that "agents of international reaction and colonialism" are being rooted out and dealt with in a suitably "revolutionary" manner.

Despite these obvious signs of nervousness, President Taraki appears to be in a somewhat stronger position now than at any time since the coup. He has emerged as a strong and even ruthless figure. He has fiercely suppressed possible pockets of opposition, and, as previously reported in the DAILY TELEGRAPH, has succeeded in carrying out a spectacular purge of leading members of the revolutionary regime who, ironically, were regarded as even more pro-Moscow than himself.

Power Struggle

There was a desperate power struggle in the first few weeks after the coup, mainly over policy and the Moscow connection, which resulted in the purge of:

Babrak Karmal, number two man of the regime and the top pro-Kremlin hardliner, who was the principal casualty. Without much ceremony, he was removed and sent to Prague as ambassador.

Dr Anahita Ratebzad, the only woman member of the cabinet and an ardent feminist, who was sent to Belgrade as ambassador;

Abdul Wakil, number two man in the Foreign Ministry, who was sent to the Afghan Embassy in London; and Nur Ahmad Nur, interior minister and one of the most respected members of the government, who was sent to Washington as ambassador.

Machiavellian Kremlin

All those purged by Mr Taraki were members of the Parcham (flag) Party, with Mr Taraki's own Khalq (people's) Party one of the two components of the People's Democratic Party which was installed in power by the coup.

Ironically, Parcham has traditionally been more pro-Soviet than Khalq. But in this instance the Kremlin, moving with Machiavellian stealth, abandoned Parcham for Mr Taraki as the best way to achieve stability in Afghanistan and ensure that communism becomes "irreversible."

The Parcham element within the post-coup government proved more doctrinaire and less compromising than the Khalq element. This added greatly to internal opposition, especially among Moslem "mullahs" in the traditionally conservative and deeply religious Afghanistan.

By contrast to Mr Babrak and his colleagues, Mr Taraki looks a more cosy figure to the "mullahs." Most observers in Kabul believe the Kremlin decided to ditch Mr Babrak and support Mr Taraki because of this. Moreover, there was the president's undoubted prestige among the young officers who led the coup.

Nod From Moscow

These observers believe the purge could not have gone ahead without Moscow's approval, and that, in any case, Mr Taraki is proving to be a useful ally for Russia.

The Soviet military advisers in Afghanistan came at Mr Taraki's behest. So, too, did the Russian administrators who are now reported to be in key, decision-making posts in various ministries.

In the main, the Russians are dictating the course of policy, if only because the immediate purge that followed the April coup meant that many ministries were left in the hands of young and inexperienced bureaucrats.

Given Mr Taraki's obvious affection for the Russians--"our great northern neighbours," he calls them--it is difficult to understand why he should have fallen out so soon with Mr Babrak's Parcham. It would appear that Mr Babrak wanted the establishment of a hardline Marxist-Leninist state, which most believe would have proved a hostile reaction from Moslems in the countryside.

Tribal Demos

As it is, the Taraki regime is undoubtedly plagued by opposition in the tribal areas. There are consistent reports in Kabul of the army and air force being used to put down anti-government demonstrations in such provinces as Kunar and Pakhtiar, as well as Nangahar--all of which border Pakistan.

The country remains remarkably open, despite the influx of the Russians, and even Western newspapers are freely on sale, while hippies and others arriving at Kabul ariport are given immediate entry visas.

In this relative freedom, observers see an indication of the basic nationalism which President Taraki has sought to maintain, together with his fundamental commitment to international socialism.

For the immediate future, Afghanistan can be expected to follow a slavishly pro-Moscow line as far as foreign policy is concerned, while retaining a fair amount of independence in connection with internal policy.

INDIA

DELHI SEA LAW CONFERENCE REACHES ACCORDS ON SEA MINING

BK051144Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Agreements on some major issues relating to deep sea mining were reached at a conference of international experts on the law of the sea which recently ended in New Delhi. Attended by experts from 17 countries, both developing and developed, the conference was the first of its kind to be held in India under the auspices of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee.

Briefing newsmen on the outcome of the deliberations, Mr B. Sen, secretary-general of the committee, said concrete ideas have emerged which would be discussed at the next New York session of the UN conference on the law of the sea beginning on the 21st of this month. Mr Sen said that India has agreed to take an application fee, a lump sum payment of $.0 million, and a production charge of 10 per cent of gross proceeds.

CALL ISSUED FOR WIDER NONALINED USE OF SATELLITE BROADCASTING

BK051117Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Aug 78 BK

[Text] India has called for collective efforts on the part of the nonalined countries to break the monopoly enjoyed by the richer nations in the use of communications satellites.

Inaugurating the first meeting of the group of nonalined countries on satellites and broadcasting in New Delhi today, the information and broadcasting minister, Mr L.K. Advani, said that the high cost and the need for high-level expertise should not deter the nonalined nations from making a beginning in this direction. He pointed out that India was the first country in the nonalined world to experiment with satellite broadcasting, and its results were highly encouraging.

He said India has decided to launch its own satellite system in 1980. This will facilitate broadcasting of radio and television programs in an extensive area. Also, it will help television programs in an extensive area. Also, it will help the nonalined countries to network their programs for exchange with each other. The minister assured that India will continue to take special interest in disseminating information through the mass media organizations to other member countries.

Besides India, the countries taking part in the 3-day meeting are Algeria, Cuba, South Korea [as heard], Guyana, Nigeria and Yugoslavia. It aims at promoting mutual program exchange between each other's broadcasting organizations and exploring the possibility of direct communication through satellites.

U.S. BAN ON SALE OF SWEDISH FIGHTERS TO INDIA SCORED

BK080243Y Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Aug 78 p 2 BK

["Comment" column: "Blackmail"]

[Text] Washington's appreciation of the Janata regime's foreign policy takes many inscrutable forms. Banning the sale of Sweden's Viggen jet fighters to India, it suggests this is because it wants to be genuinely nonaligned as between this country and Pakistan. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's announcement of the final decision in the matter is followed by the explanation that the sale, if allowed, would have created a "Pakistani problem." Sweden sees the ban, made possible by the fact that an American corporation produces the Viggen engines, as an expression of disapproval of its policy of neutrality. It believes this is part of an attempt by the Carter administration to favour the closer Western allies of the United States--and this is apparently confirmed by the report about the American officials' statement, hoping that India might turn to either Britain or France for a jet deal. But, this is only a secondary consideration. The primary was to preserve the balance of power in the region in favour of imperialism by helping prop the martial law regime of Gen Ziaul Haq in its precarious existence. It was after all, only recently that Mr Carter's adviser, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, visited Peking to call the Maoist comrades-in-arms to consolidate their all round links with Islamabad and extend the utmost support to it. So, while China helps build the Karakoram highway, the Americans will attempt to stop arms supplies to India, wherever it is in their control The blackmail must be considered a threat to all those affected by the unholly alliance.

PATRIOT RAPS PAKISTAN'S 'NEGATIVE' ATTITUDE TOWARD INDIA

BK0301557 Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Aug 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Double Talk"]

[Text] Faced with widespread dissatisfaction against his repressive regime and failure to win over to his side even a small section of responsible democratic political opinion in Pakistan, General Ziaul Haq has returned to the time-worn tactics of paying lip-service to the objective of amity with India and, at the same time, doing everything to exacerbate relations between the two neighbours. Since February, when External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee made his goodwill pilgrimage to Islamabad, Pakistan's chief martial law administrator has, on several occasions, acted in a manner which can hardly be described as friendly. The trade talks between the two countries ended in a stalemate because of Pakistan's negative attitude. Subsequently, contrary to Mr Agha Shahi's assurance to Mr Vajpayee in New York, Islamabad unilaterally terminated private trade between the two countries and the government-controlled media was encouraged to whip up a hysteria on the imaginary threat of economic penetration by India. Even on such humanitarian questions as relaxation of restrictions on travel across the cease-fire line in Jammu and Kashmir, the military regime has taken a totally callous stand.

When General Zia raked up the Kashmir issue during Chinese Vice Premier Keng Piao's visit to Pakistan and the latter, in keeping with Peking's tactics of fanning tensions in the subcontinent, promptly declared support for the so-called "right of self-determination" of the Kashmiri people, it became clear that the Pakistan Government had launched a fresh campaign against India solely with a view to divert the attention of its people who had begun to show signs of restiveness at the continued denial of civil liberties and the suffocating suppression of democratic rights. In flagrant violation of the spirit of the Simla agreement, which envisaged bilateral settlement of all questions, General Zia raised the bogey of Kashmir at the Asian Islamic conference also. In this context, it is amazing that the general should regard Afghanistan's genuine concern for the destiny of Pakhtoon and Baluch people as "unacceptable interference" in Pakistan's internal affairs though his regime continues to pursue a policy of repression of these ethnic groups.

Its [India's] acquiescence in permitting Pakistan to secure the status of a guest at the nonaligned conference, in spite of its membership of CENTO, appears to have created an impression that New Delhi can be taken for a ride on other important questions also. In view of Islamabad's attempts to agitate the Kashmir question again on international forums, General Zia's professions about good relations with India should be suspect. In any case, the people will not permit the Government of India to compromise on issues involving national integrity.

PATRIOT COMMENTS ON OUTCOME OF BELGRADE NONALINED MEETING

BK080135Y Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Aug 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Nonalignment"]

[Text] The authentic character of nonalignment proclaimed at Belgrade may carry sweet echoes of the genuine brand of it advocated by India's Janata pioneers. It is an achievement of some merit, however, that the foreign ministers, who have just concluded the most contentious ever meeting in the history of the movement, have been able to soften the edges of mutual conflict and bridge the gap between rival interpretations of hegemony and bloc politics etc., to a somewhat acceptable consensus. With the growth in the membership of the movement and the confusion created by the rush to join it by many countries with compromising credentials, it is well that the consensus reiterates some at least of the broad principles of the movement. These include its anti-imperialist thrust, the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism and racism (including Zionism) and against foreign interference in the internal affairs of independent nations and against foreign bases. Reiteration by Cuba of the "natural" alliance between nonalignment and socialism was not of course as forthrightly supported by other countries, but a fairly wide acceptance appears to have been secured for the view that involvement with imperialist bloc politics is not the same thing as seeking or security support and cooperation from nonimperialist forces for freedom and self-reliant growth. There is, however, a grey area of unresolved doubt, left to be decided by the Havana summit next September, and this leaves the movement open to further divisive attempts. An Afghan move, requiring those seeking even a guest status to declare their dissociation from military alliances, has been shelved. Also put off are issues like concretising support for the liberation movements in southern and central Africa, ending imperialist interference in countries like Zaire and the attempts to divide and weaken Indochina.

Preparations for the conference and even its proceedings were overshadowed by intense lobbying by the West off-stage--and from within by the "guests" planted by it in Belgrade--to neutralize the nonaligned and press ahead with plans to destabilize the independent nations of Africa, arrest the consolidation of Socialist Vietnam and undermine the revolutionary regime in Afghanistan, among other things. And India, with all its new neighbourly policy, was not easily persuaded that its nonalignment would not be compromised if it carried Pakistan on its shoulders to Belgrade or if it equivocated on hegemonism of human rights. Such unresolved questions have naturally found an echo at Belgrade. The declaration of the conference thus juggles with formulations about domination, bloc divisions, foreign bases, independence and termination of all foreign occupation, etc. The jugglery does not hide the fact that the interests of the nonaligned are not attacked by a set of big powers with identical hegemonistic and colonial ambitions. They are attacked, as the economic declaration from Belgrade makes more clear, by imperialist and colonial nations and alliances and not those who support growth, in freedom, of all developing nations. The economic logic is closely interwoven with the political. Castigating Cuba or running away from total involvement in the cause of real freedom for all people may attract larger numbers to the movement but will not strengthen it.

PAKISTAN

AFGHAN MIG-17 LANDS IN PAKISTAN 7 AUGUST

BK0714337 Hong Kong AFP in English 0912 GMT 7 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Rawalpindi, Aug 7 (AFP)--The government today announced landing of an Afghan Air Force MIG-17 in Pakistani territory but did not say whether the pilot had defected or the plane had strayed into the country's air space.

A brief two-paragraph announcement named the pilot as Major Mohammad Akram. It said the pilot was safe and was being questioned.

It was not disclosed where the MIG landed, but informed sources said the aircraft was in Peshawar, headquarters of the Pakistan Air Force and frontier province bordering Afghanistan. The incident took place at a time when the relations between the two countries are under strain as the new Afghan regime has revived differences which were nearly settled before the April 27 Kabul coup. Some Pakistani newspapers reported last month that Afghan aircraft had violated Pakistan air space on a number of occasions.

SRI LANKA

ANTICONSPIRACY CLAUSE OF NEW CONSTITUTION DELETED

BK0713277 Hong Kong AFP in English 1017 GMT 7 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (AFP)--The Sri Lankan Government today bowed to opposition criticism and announced it would delete a highly controversial section in the proposed new constitution.

The offensive clause said any person who advocates, attempts, abets, instigates, participates or engages in any conspiracy to amend or repeal the constitution outside Parliament would be guilty of an offence the penalty for which was 10 years imprisonment, a fine and forfeiture of all property.

A member of Parliament found guilty of this offence was liable to lose his seat.

Opposition leader Appapillai Amirthalingam of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and former Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike of the Freedom Party (SLFP) criticised the provision describing it as a "draconian" law. The clause was also criticised by the Trotskyite and communist parties which are not represented in Parliament.

An announcement from President J.R. Jayewardene's office today said the government has decided to delete this section.

Parliament is now debating a bill to repeal the present constitution and replace it with the new one. The two opposition parties in Parliament are boycotting the debate after voicing their opposition to the proposed constitution.

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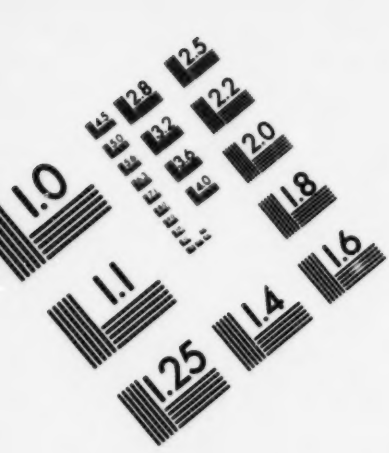

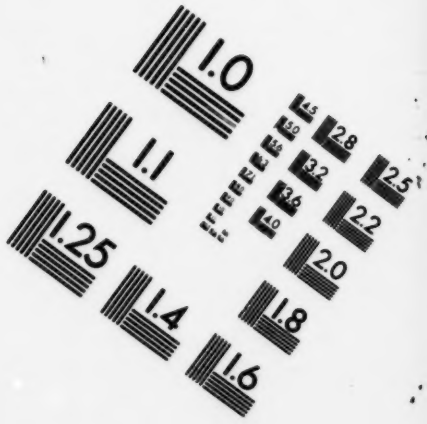

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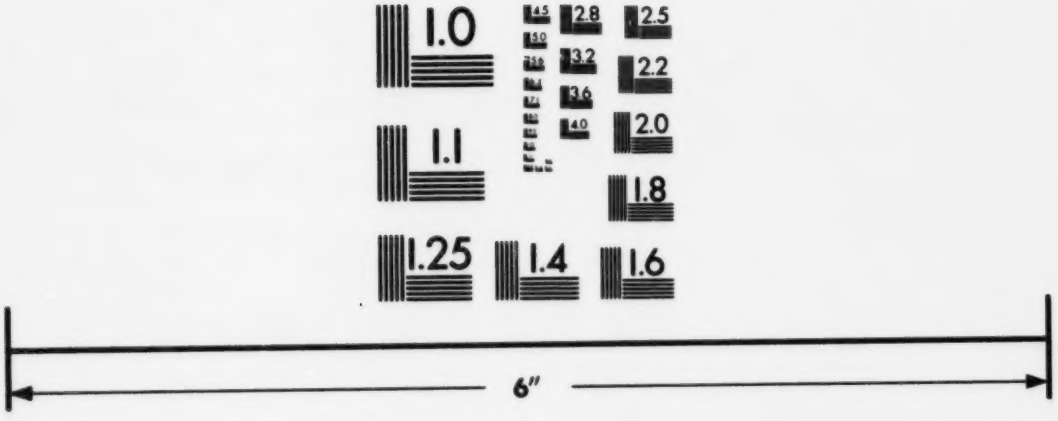

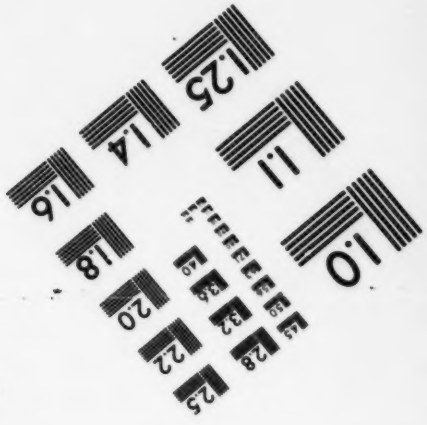

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